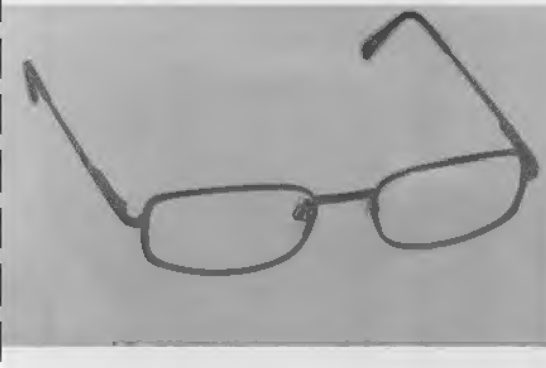


Paul Lorieau's University Optical



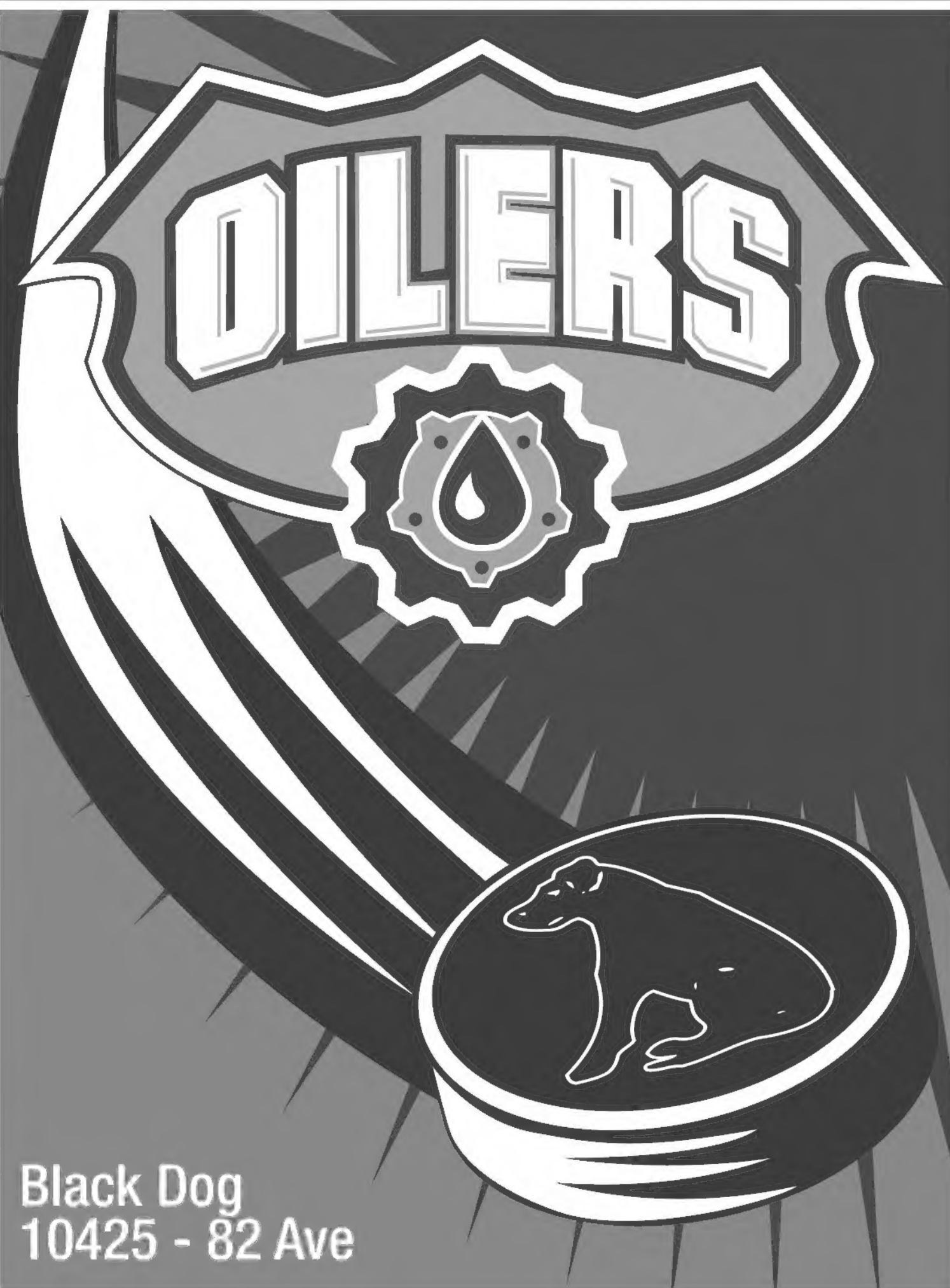
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Evolution is a work in progress

KIRK
ZEMBAL

"If we were all here at university without any ulterior motives, we wouldn't need things like degrees or titles just to get a job/date/sperm-bank application. We'd be like the pretty girl who doesn't wear makeup—she knows she's hot shit and doesn't need to brag about it."

There is a common misconception out there that the U of A is a veritable hump-factory—that any student here is entitled to as much sex as they can handle. We all saw the stats a few years ago that said 25 per cent of U of A students have some kind of venereal disease—and yes, it's technically true that you can't spell Lister without S T I—but I'd be very shocked to find out that the 25 per cent with STIs are evenly distributed across the entire campus.

To paraphrase Jerry Seinfeld, have you been to Lister Hall? It's like a leper colony down there. To be frank, most people on campus—especially the less attractive—just aren't gettin' it on very often. Of course, we still try. There's a reason that the Dance Club is the most popular on campus and that Orientation perpetually has more applicants than volunteer positions—or even that the Gateway runs pictures of their columnists. It's because people are disappointed when the beautiful people are getting all the good stuff.

And then there's alcohol, which has been helping people to hook up ever since some guy accidentally drank something rotten. But at the end of the day, good-looking and physically attractive people are going to get the lion's share of the poo-nanny—and

that's a great thing! After all, we didn't become the pre-eminent species on this planet by letting any ol' sub-par (ie ugly) members of the species procreate. Evolution is not based on making friends.

It did, however, throw mankind for a loop that one time when it decided that smart, innovative people were the most favoured. As a species, we'd been trying to pop out only good-looking babies, and we would've been fucked had it not been for our ability to adapt to make smart ones too (since unfortunately most of us aren't smart and man-pretty like me).

Because we can't immediately determine the intelligence of someone like we can their physical attractiveness, humanity has been forced to develop ways to make smart people prove their worth before letting them add to the gene pool. The natural progression of this has led us from the development of speech and language right down the path through Quad. That's right: the main reason you're all here is to make yourself a more attractive potential mate by proving your intellectual rigour so that society can keep producing smart babies.

"But Kirk," you might say, "I came to this school to become a better person, to learn and self-actualize

myself." And I say bullshit. If we were all here at university without any ulterior motives, we wouldn't need things like degrees or titles just to get a job/date/sperm-bank application. We'd be like the pretty girl who doesn't wear makeup—she knows she's hot shit and doesn't need to brag about it. Instead, most of us on some level think that we're better than people who don't go to university.

Again, this is perfectly natural: we want to build ourselves up in the eyes of others to try and secure ourselves the best possible standing in society—and, more importantly, the best mating partner. This pressure has been exerted on our species for millennia, and it just wouldn't do to go messing around with something that has made us the current epitome of evolution.

So don't feel too bad about your nerdiness, because it just makes evolutionary sense for you to do your absolute best in school. We need smart, hard-working people to keep us on top of the food chain. But bear in mind that the prize at the end of the tunnel is not a piece of paper on your wall—it's the smart, beautiful babies you'll make with your smart, beautiful partner. This way, all of society benefits—and who knows? Maybe even engineers will one day get laid.

Brains: not just for zombies anymore

TYSON
DURST

You've probably heard the term High Definition Multimedia Interface (HDMI) thrown around a lot if you've been in any kind of electronic retail environment as of late. For those who don't know, it's basically all the rage in technological gadgetry to make television shows and movies look and sound better than ever before.

However, I'd like to suggest a second definition for this acronym. It sprang forth from my grey matter as my neural pathways were processing new developments in human enhancement that have been making headlines and paving the way for a bold, exciting, hopeful and possibly nightmarish future. For your consideration, I offer the Human Digital Machine Interface.

Human enhancement is already a huge business, and the future points to a world where it will dominate the industrialized and computerized societies that inhabit that future. Bionics, genetics, and drugs appear to form the trilogy of tomorrow's play on human self-directed evolution and enhancement, but it's bionics—and more specifically, the emerging field of brain-machine interfacing—that has my primitive, low-tech brain firing with activity.

The term brain-machine interface is a bit redundant since the human brain is merely a highly sophisticated

organic computer; it's a machine that we normally don't associate with common perceptions of machines as artificial creations. That's likely why researchers have not only demonstrated irrefutably that the human brain can interface with artificial machines but also that it can control and affect those constructs—and, by extension, the external environment around it.

Phrases like "identity theft" or "thought police" could take on a whole new meaning if one person could hack into another's brain.

One prominent example comes from the University of Pennsylvania, where researchers have successfully developed a type of extension cord that allows the brain and nervous system to connect to prosthetic devices. One of the lead researchers, Douglas Smith, proposes that "we're at a junction now of developing a new approach for a brain-machine interface." For those of you who can actually comprehend science speak, this research was published in the January issue of *Neurosurgery*.

In the same article, it was also mentioned that a company called Cyberkinetics had developed a sensor last year that allowed a paralyzed man to open his e-mail or adjust the controls on his television by the power of thought alone.

By Googling "virtual reality bio-feedback," a number of articles pop up

instantly that further point to thoughts not existing simply as abstract, mystical things but as entities that carry a definite physical dimension that can directly affect external reality.

The next logical step in computer technology seems to point to a revolution in the way that people interface with computers and other artificial devices. The possibilities in the field of medicine are obvious and offer incredible hope in many different ways for a lot of people.

As for common applications and everyday use, people may not have to bother with a keyboard or a mouse much longer when the technology gets to a point where you can simply plug your brain into the computer directly. People may even link up directly with other people to exchange thoughts rather than e-mails. The possibilities of achieving a new understanding with other people by being able to truly see the world as they do or feel what they feel is incredible—just as much as the potential for such technology to be abused and subverted for sinister purposes.

Phrases like "identity theft" or "thought police" could take on a whole new meaning if one person could hack into another's brain. But if the magnitude of the various moral and ethical quandaries attached to such technology is a bit overwhelming, take comfort that such scenarios are a long way off and may not occur at all, at least as we might currently imagine it.

Even if such technology becomes mainstream one day, I'm sure that if some people don't want to participate in such leaps, they will be given the choice—just as the people of today can choose not to use computers, cell-phones or surveillance cameras.



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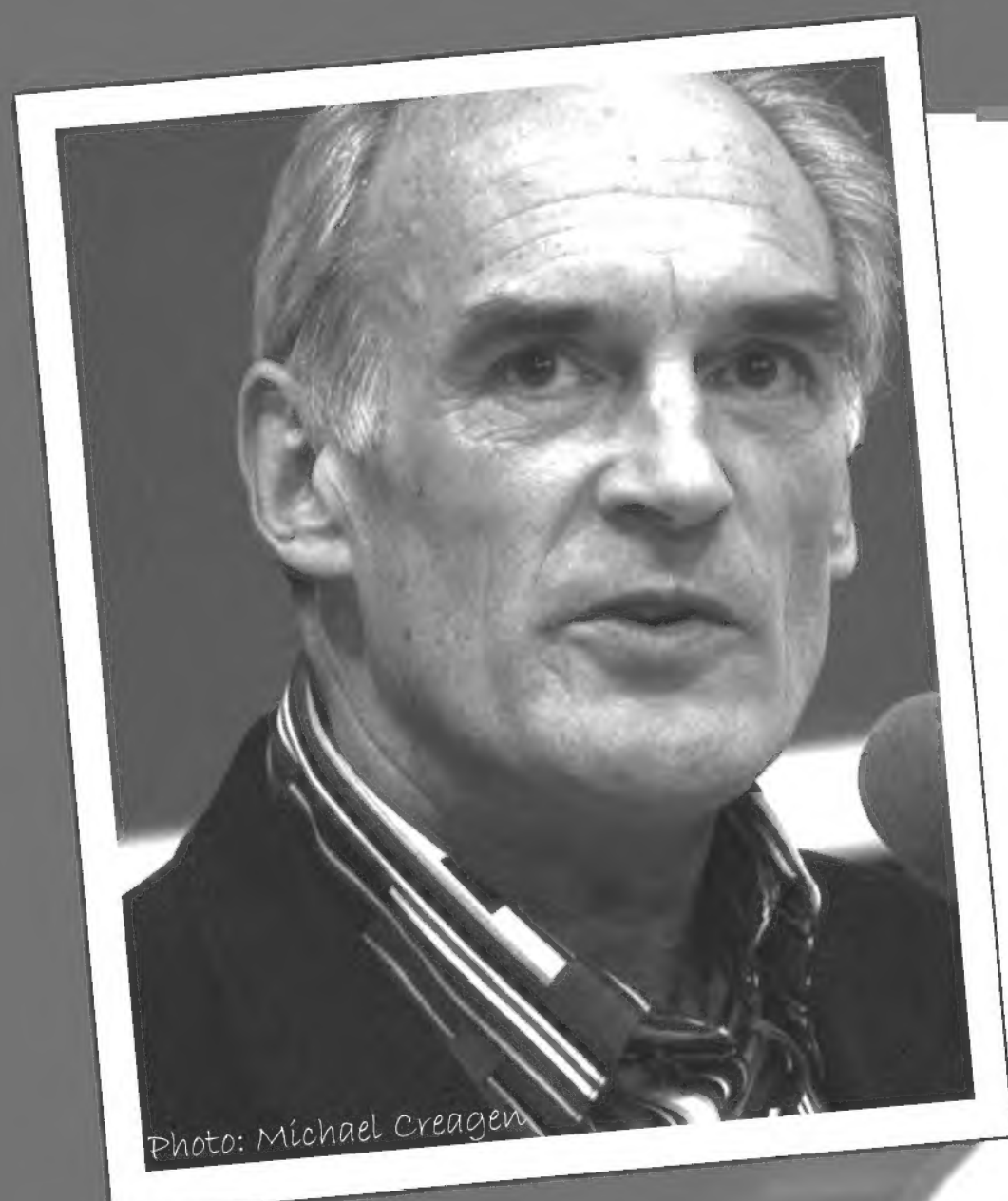


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Beyond Terror: The Real Weapons of Mass Destruction

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

RONALD WRIGHT**The Traps of Progress**

Monday, January 29

12:00–1:30 pm, Myer Horowitz Theatre, Students' Union Building

Evening **KEYNOTES**

Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex E1-001/E1-003 @ 7:30pm

Monday January 29**Predicament of Definition:**

Why the International Community Does Not Agree How To Define Terrorism

Hamid Abdeljaber

Former Chief of Middle East Radio Unit, News and Media Division,

Department of Public Information, United Nations

Tuesday January 30**Water and Human Security:**
A Thirst for Survival**Maude Barlow**

The Council of Canadians

**James (Jim) Carter**

President and Chief Operating Officer, Syncrude Canada Ltd.

**Kori Chilibeck**

Founder and CEO, Earth Water International

**Dr. David W. Schindler**

Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta

Wednesday January 31**The Global Consequences of Arctic Climate Change****Dr. Mark Nuttall**

Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta

**Tuesday February 1****Mercenaries:**
Strong Norm, Weak Law**Dr. Sarah Percy**

The Oxford Leverhulme Programme on the Changing Character of War, University of Oxford

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The University of Alberta's

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January 29 – February 2

Beyond Terror: The Real Weapons of Mass Destruction

Around the World in Six Hours

January 23–February 1, 2007 | Noon–1:00 pm | SUB Stage



EUROPE

Tuesday, January 23
Eta Mondo



AFRICA

Thursday, February 1
Unveiling Africa



ASIA

Wednesday,
January 24

Meera
Varghese



MIDDLE EAST

Tuesday, January 30
Ashraf El-Assaly

NORTH AMERICA

Wednesday, January 31
High Point Bluegrass Band



LATIN AMERICA

Thursday, January 25
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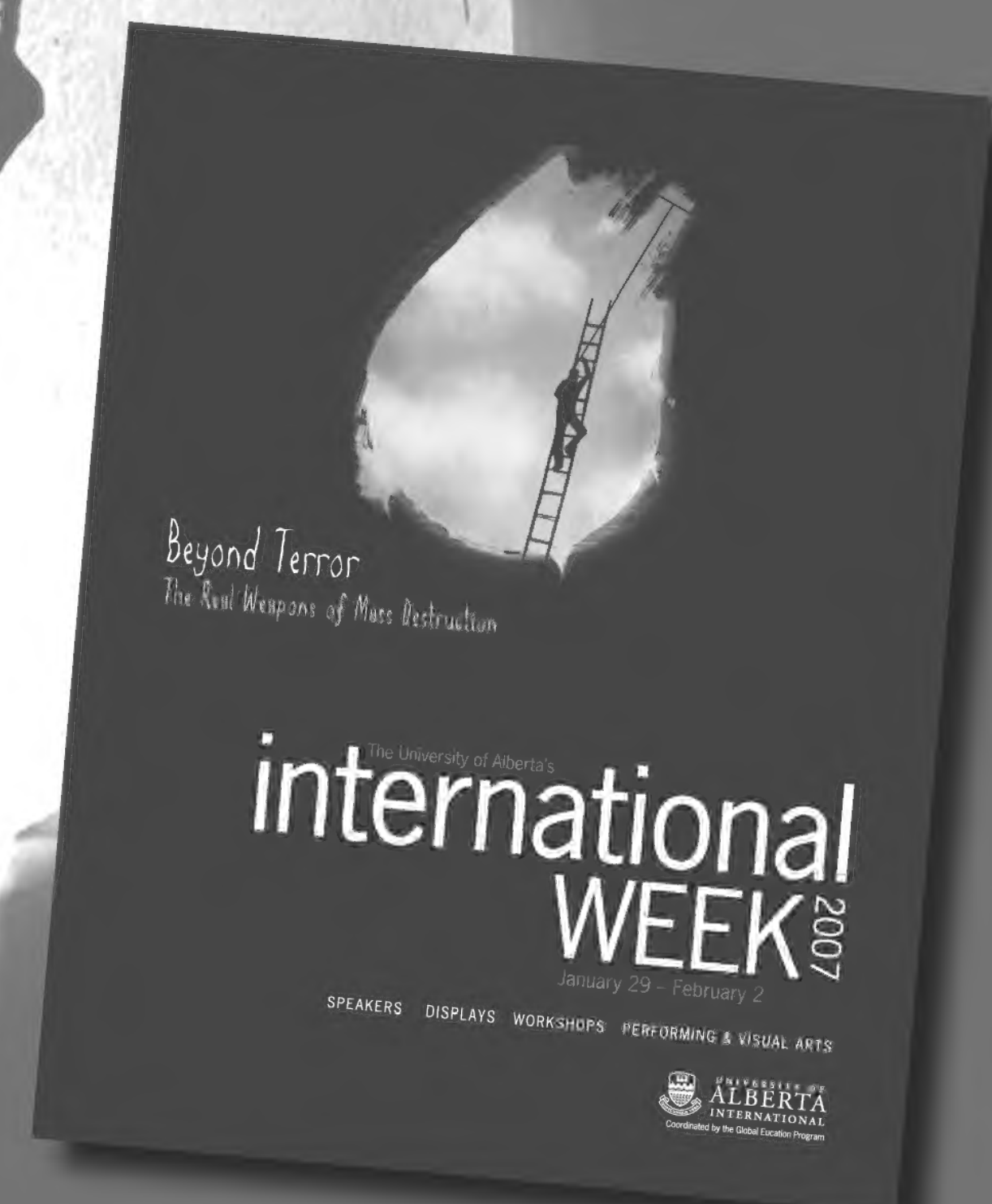
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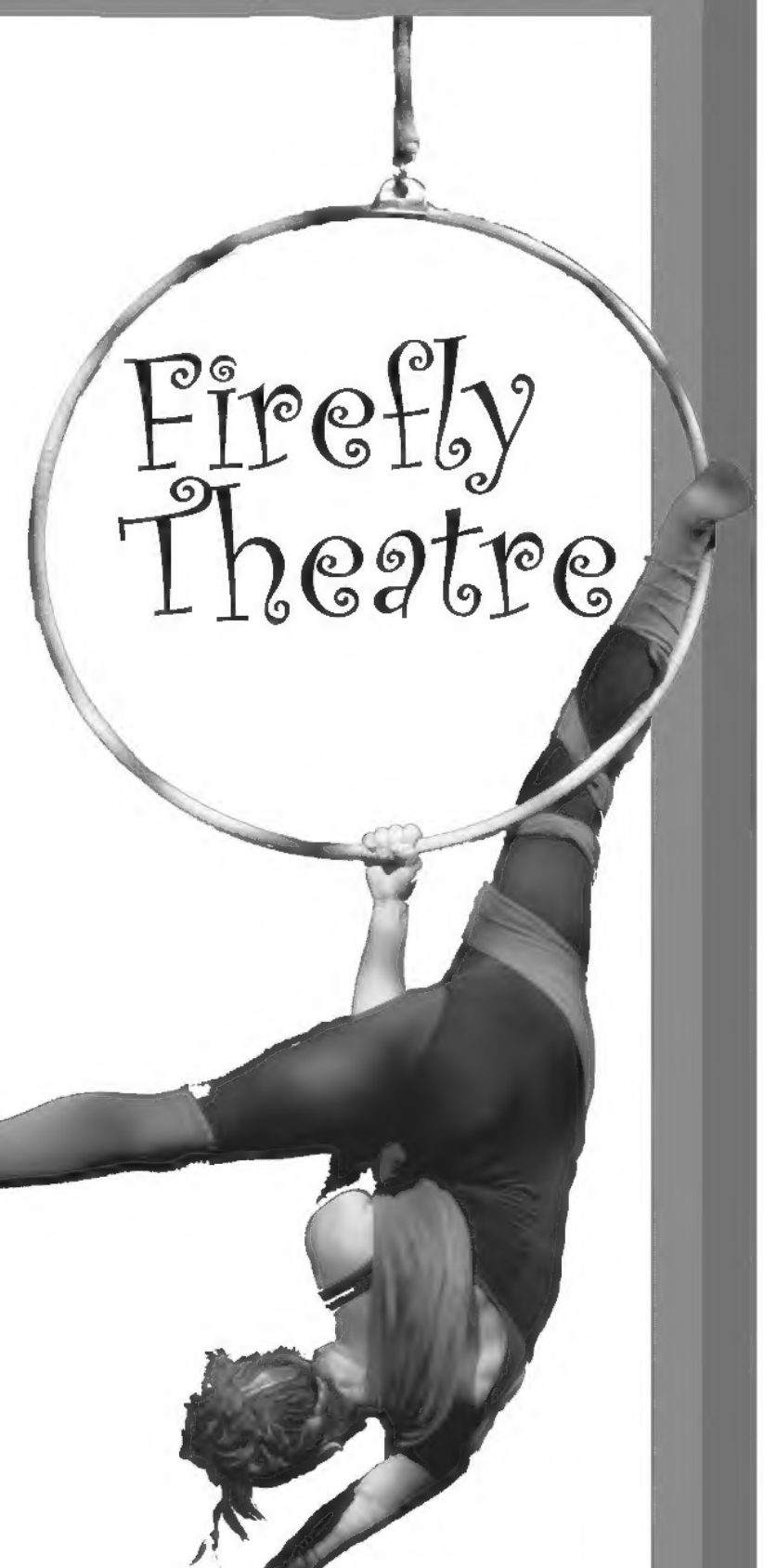
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Career fairs are set up like a trade show. At the Summer Job Fair, there will be over 100 organizations, each set up at their own booth, ready to meet you. Here are some tips to make the best of it:

1. Before you attend the Summer Job Fair, attend the seminar titled 'Making career fairs and career forums work for you'. This seminar takes place on Monday, January 29 from 12:05 to 12:50 p.m. at CaPS in 2-100 SUB. There is no pre-registration required and the seminar is free.
2. Find out who is attending the Summer Job Fair ahead of time by visiting the CaPS website at www.ualberta.ca/caps.
3. Research organizations of interest who are attending the fair.
4. Make a list of the organizations you want to make contact with at the career fair.
5. Prepare questions for each organization. For example:
 - a. Do you currently have jobs posted with CaPS? Will you in the near future?
 - b. What skills and experiences do you look for in applicants?
6. Practice introducing yourself to employers. Be prepared to tell them your name, your area of study, and what kind of work you are looking for.
7. Have a resume available incase employers ask for it. Be sure that your resume is top-notch. Have your resume critiqued at CaPS beforehand.
8. Wear 'business casual' clothing. There isn't any need to wear a suit, but you also should not wear jeans.
9. Keep an open mind. Don't assume that certain organizations only hire individuals with a particular background.
10. After the Summer Job Fair, be sure to make a list of the employers that you spoke to and the organizations that tweaked your interest. This list will help you during your work search.

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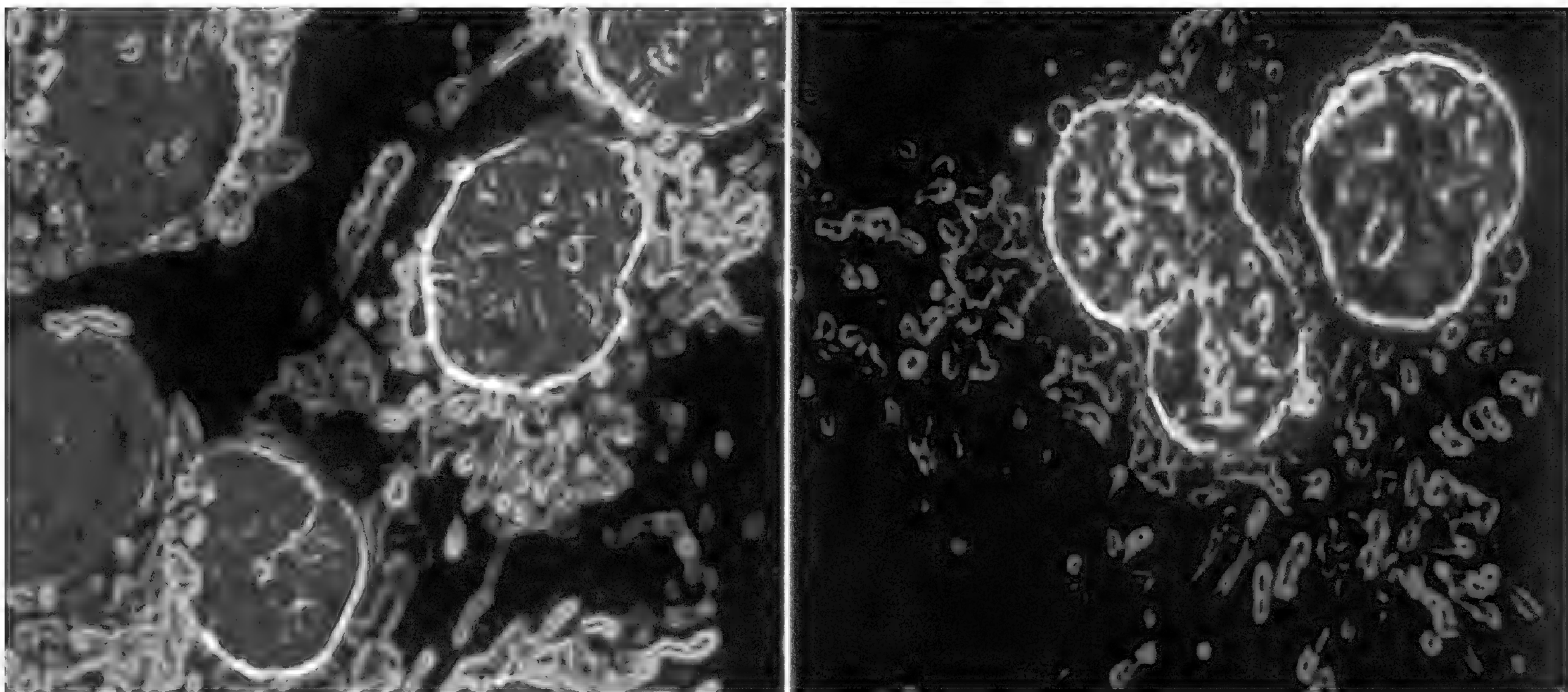
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THE GATEWAY

volume XCVII number 29 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.gateway.ualberta.ca ♦ thursday, 25 january, 2007



SUPPLIED

TAKE THAT, CANCER These before and after shots show the effect of DCA, a drug with anti-cancer properties. The treatment is still a long way from human trials, but it's raising eyebrows worldwide.

U of A finds promising cancer drug

While still in early research stages and far from human testing, new compound offers hope of safe, effective treatment for patients

ROBIN COLLUM
News Staff

Researchers at the University of Alberta have opened a new door in cancer treatment by researching the alternate use of a drug that's been around to treat other diseases for decades.

In a paper released this month in the medical journal *Cancer Cell*, a group of scientists from the U of A and the University of Ottawa announced that a molecule previously used to

treat certain genetic conditions has been shown to kill cancer cells and shrink tumours in lab rats.

The group, led by U of A's Dr Evangelos Michelakis, has shown that the generic drug dichloroacetate (DCA) induces death in cancer cells by improving mitochondrial function in the cells. Mitochondria, the major energy-producing units in cells, are also in charge of regulating cell death. Scientists have known since the 1930s that mitochondria in cancer cells

don't work properly, but it was thought that this was an irreversible result of the cancer.

Until now, no one had discovered that the mitochondria could be restored to their previous function.

"The development of cancer is associated with mitochondrial dysfunction," explained Dr Sebastien Bonnet, the U of A post-doctoral student who was the first author of the paper and conducted most of the experiments. "By restoring the mitochondrial function with DCA we

were able to decrease the tumour size, kill the cancer cells and block the growth of cancer."

"When we inject the cancer cells into rats, we see the first effect within a week. It's a slow process, but the tumour size decreases steadily, and goes like that as long as we've been testing."

DCA has been used since the 1970s to treat other conditions and diseases, but its use hadn't been considered for cancer treatment until now.

PLEASE SEE **DCA** ♦ PAGE 5
ALSO READ **FREHNER** ON PAGE 8

Grant Mac looking overseas for students and studies

LACINA DESJARLAIS
News Writer

All university students, at least the ones who go to class, know what a lecture theatre is like, but what if your new lecture theatre could be the world? This is the question that Grant MacEwan College's new Director of International Education, David McLeod, is asking students.

With the new year just beginning, McLeod and his colleagues in the Department of International Education are planning to extend the College's reach beyond Canadian borders and into unfamiliar territory. Their plans include attracting more international students, as well as expanding programs that would create increased opportunities for Grant MacEwan students to spend time studying overseas. McLeod hopes to have much of the groundwork for the expansion laid by this spring,

with a broader range of opportunities and international programs available to students by the end of 2007.

"Ultimately it would be great for every student to be able to spend a year studying abroad or at least for them to have the chance to interact with more international students here."

DAVID MCLEOD

While the U of A may have an excellent international studies program in place, McLeod says that Grant MacEwan

isn't modelling their new programs and ideas exclusively after those being implemented at the University. McLeod explained that expanding educational opportunities into global territory isn't a new concept, and that what they're trying to do is integrate the best of what is already being done with the best of their new ideas to create a brighter future.

"We're not modelling our programs after any other institution exclusively but there are so many programs in the world that it's hard to do something that no one else is doing," McLeod said. "I'm not looking at what [the U of A] is doing and trying to carbon copy it over here; however, if I learn that the U of A is doing something particularly interesting and it's working there, I would be a fool not to look at."

When asked about his vision for the future of international studies at Grant

MacEwan, McLeod said that he had hopes to form new relationships with more of the world's reputable universities and colleges, enabling greater numbers of international exchanges to occur.

Another key point in his plan is to introduce more visiting professors into the College's staff to bring a greater range of teaching styles and perspectives into the mix.

McLeod, a firm believer in the benefits of international education, stated that students had much to gain from the increased presence of international students on campus.

"When you bring students onto campus from abroad, you also have the opportunity to be bringing into the classroom people with different life experiences and different educational backgrounds to challenge some of the familiar ways of thinking and ideas

that are shared in classrooms here," McLeod explained. "Those different perspectives really help to enhance many of the programs, particularly liberal arts and science. The more diverse the student body is, the more diverse the opinions in the classroom will be."

McLeod says that not only is he concerned with academics, but is also focused on helping students to become more aware of the world around them and the new ways of doing things being explored internationally everyday.

"The goal for all students is to make the international less foreign. I want them to see that what they're learning and studying is a part of something larger, that they are a part of something larger," he said. "Ultimately it would be great for every student to be able to spend a year studying abroad or at least for them to have the chance to interact with more international students here."

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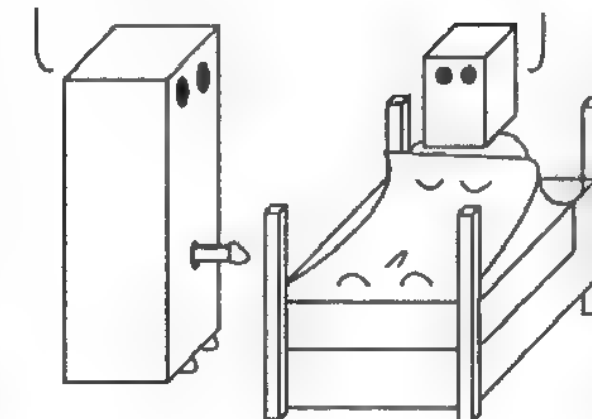


Battle of the classes

The *Gateway* goes undercover in some of the U of A's largest lecture halls to see which courses make the grade.

FEATURE, PAGE 28

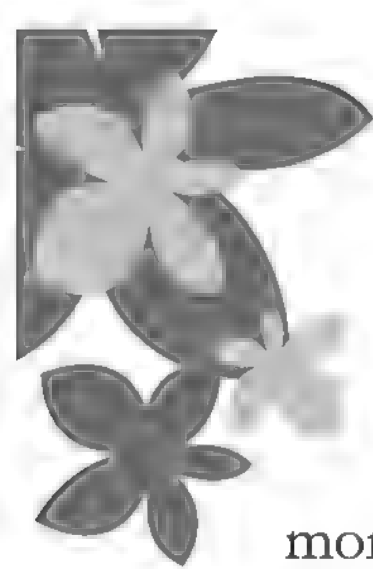
Can I at least cut arm holes?



Dick out of a box

Some people wear bags on their heads to conceal their identity. Others go a little bit further with it.

COMICS, PAGE 35



So, you're looking for a summer job?

What

Having a job objective is helpful - having some idea of the type of work you want to do will help you to be more effective and efficient in your work search. If you don't know what you want, you should probably start by doing some career planning.

Why

Knowing what you want to get out of your summer work experience is also important. It can affect the job objective you set, as well as the types of employers and work situations you are willing to consider. Many students get a summer job to earn money. However, you must also consider other benefits. First, you can gain valuable work experience and develop skills that you can market to future employers. Second, you can develop your network of contacts. Finally, if you find summer work in a field you want to pursue on graduation, you can gain a better understanding of the field and whether or not it suits your interests, values, skills and needs.

How

Many employers use CaPS to advertise positions they want to fill, including summer positions. You can access our job postings on our website (www.ualberta.ca/caps). You can also connect with employers offering summer employment by attending the CaPS Summer Job Fair on February 1, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Butterdome.

When

Now! It is never too early to begin looking for summer employment.

Start your career planning by attending the workshop, "Career Decision Making Strategies" on March 7. Visit CaPS (2-100, SUB) to register.

Learn tips for planning your summer vocation! Attend a free seminar on March 2 at 12:05 at CaPS (2-100, SUB). No pre-registration is required, just drop in!

Learn how to write a resume that will get noticed by employers. Attend a workshop.

For students in Science, Engineering and related disciplines - **January 29**

For students in Education - **February 7**

For students in Arts, Business and related disciplines - **February 8**

Pre-register at CaPS (2-100 SUB).

Learn how to prepare effectively for the job interview and answer interview questions. Attend a workshop for students in...

Education - **February 3**

Science, Engineering and related disciplines - **February 6**

Arts, Business and related disciplines - **February 12**

Pre-register at CaPS (2-100 SUB).

Attend a CaPS career forum to learn about work in your academic discipline or in specific sectors of the labour market. Here are some upcoming career forums. Visit the CaPS website for more information at: www.ualberta.ca/caps.

Marketing
Tuesday, January 30

Nutrition and Food Sciences
Wednesday, January 31

Human Ecology
Thursday, February 1

Economics
Tuesday, February 6

Political Science
Wednesday, February 7

Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP)
Thursday, February 8

Native Studies
Tuesday, February 13

International Development
Wednesday, February 28

Careers in Writing
Thursday, March 1

Non-Profit Sector
Tuesday, March 6

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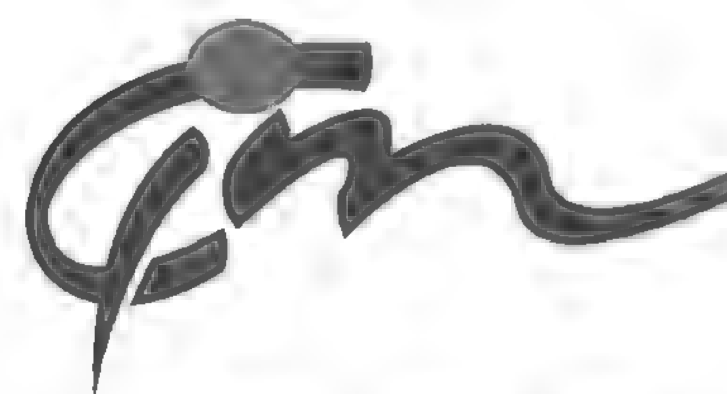
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SOCIAL
INTERCOURSE**Venus**

Starring Peter O'Toole
Directed by Roger Michell
Princess Theatre
Opens Friday 26 January

Both Oscar fever and Super Bowl fever are heating up, and besides the two popular events being so close to each other airing-wise, there are other startling similarities between these two American entertainment staples. Both events begin with an unnecessarily long pre-game show, both feature idols you've probably read about in *People* magazine, national newspapers and unflattering county sheriff reports next to mugshots, and lastly, both events are so unbearably tedious that it's nearly a crime against humanity to be forced to sit all the way through either one without slamming a bottle of Jack Daniels and developing a hatred for life.

But unlike the Super Bowl, where knowing what teams are playing is somewhat of a moot point, it's always good to have some Oscar knowledge. Get schooled by going to see *Venus*, which garnered film legend Peter O'Toole an Oscar nomination for Best Actor. A story of two aging, veteran actors who have their lives turned around after meeting a young teenage girl, the movie could be O'Toole's last hurrah at scoring the elusive Best Actor award. Can *Lawrence of Arabia* finally catch the little gold man? Can Peyton Manning finally lift the coveted Lombardi trophy? Tune in next month, same pop time, same pop culture.

**The Secretaries**

With Hot Panda and DJ Sheri Barclay
Saturday, 27 January at 8pm
Victory Lounge, 18+
\$8 at door

Ready for some hot Secretaries action? How about some Hot Panda action? Then head down to the Victory Lounge this weekend and enjoy these two energetic Edmonton bands. Witness Edmonton's most rocking receptionists that have creative, slightly disturbing nicknames such as Robot Ass Slap and Masked Floor Hump. Headed by Amy van Keeken, this band will have the crowd appreciating the intricacies of filing amidst heavy distortion. Along with them, we have Hot Panda, fellow patrons of the garage sound, who encourage their listeners to "make love to a whale." The members of the band travelled to Norway to work abroad and, inspired by all the pandas they saw in the Northern European country as well as the Scandinavian rock scene, came back to invigorate Edmonton with their unbearably fuzzy rock.

Stephen Fearing

With Ben Spencer
Wednesday 31 January at 9pm
Sidetrack Café
\$15 advance at Sidetrack and Tix on the Square,
\$18 at door

After 20 years on the Canadian folk-rock circuit, Vancouver singer-songwriter Stephen Fearing brings his rootsy musical sensibilities to the Sidetrack Café on his solo tour. The Blackie and the Rodeo Kings founder made his name as a solo musician years before starting the Rodeo Kings and has produced a steady stream of folk music since the mid-'80s. He's now touring in support his new album, *Yellowjacket*.

JOHN KMECH

Not to be confused with the Jian Ghomeshi

From cowgirls to angels

Matt Mays wanders from Canadian highways to the silver screen with *The Angels Make Contact*

Matt Mays

With Museum Pieces
Saturday, 27 January at 8pm
Starlite Room

KRISTINA DE GUZMAN
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Matt Mays' new album, *When the Angels Make Contact*, may have taken fans and music critics by surprise. Best known for his hit single with El Torpedo, "Cocaine Cowgirl," Mays has temporarily set his classic rock 'n' roll sounds aside for something more dark and experimental.

Just recently, Mays and El Torpedo were on a US tour in support of their debut, self-titled album, which had already been on record shelves in Canada for a couple of years. It even managed to get them a last minute gig on Late Night With Conan O'Brien in December.

"Yeah, like two days before the show," Mays says with a hint of disbelief. "Jay-Z backed out and the Conan show had to fill [his spot]. It was pretty funny."

If the American release of Matt Mays & El Torpedo and the tour that followed weren't enough to keep busy, *When The Angels Make Contact*, a solo effort Mays made alongside El Torpedo band member Tim Jim Baker, was being released in Canada at roughly the same time.

The new album, however, goes beyond a typical solo project, in that it's a soundtrack to a film that has yet to see the light of day.

"I didn't think *When The Angels Make Contact* was going to be a movie soundtrack when I started," Mays says. "I just thought it was going to be an album

with a bit of a theme. Then I did the movie and it inspired me to do more songs."

His love for movies and innate interest in seeing his writing transferred to the silver screen led him to shoot a film with the help of director Drew Lightfoot. So what's it about? Well, the soundtrack's cover art of a genie surrounded by a dark background contrasting the title gives a bit of an idea.

"The genie is a series of characters in the movie that warns JJ, the main character, about his future," Mays explains. "[JJ] gets warned by angels, but not necessarily good angels."

There are several notable cameos in the film, including hip-hop/rap artist Buck 65 as "a genie in a box," who also made a contribution to the album's title track. Along with Buck 65, Sam Roberts appears in the film as "a crazed surfer in a pickup truck full of surfers."

However, the film's cameos may be easier to miss than Mays' new 'do. Aside from his character having short hair in the movie, he insists there isn't more of an interesting reason behind it.

"I'm wearing different things and wearing my hair differently. It's a nice change. I don't like the same old, same old," Mays says.

"I figured it'd be kind of good to keep it for a while for the tour. I may grow my hair back. I don't know."

Mays is also unsure when and if the film will ever be released as post-production costs kept it from being completed. Meanwhile, listeners are left to guess a little about the music's direction.

"[The music] starts off a little mysterious but then it gets really dark and it ends nice. I wanted to follow that," sketches Mays in his attempt to relate the music to the film's storyline. "And it was kind of a dark period of my life when I was making it. It just kind of came out."

While Mays is hoping that he doesn't lose fans as a result of his crossover to the dark side, he also hopes that people who like the darker end of things might give his music a chance. After all, he's allowing fans to listen to the entire album on his website. But when it comes to music downloading, however, he has mixed opinions.

"[Music downloading] doesn't seem really fair, but there are all these upsides to it like more people get to hear of you," says Mays before turning cynical. "I get a little upset sometimes when I sacrifice relationships and bigger chunks of my life to be in the studio and I really don't see any compensation for it. I still can't pay the rent sometimes, but then again, in turn, sometimes it gets more people to the shows. I hope. I don't know, but I hope that's the case."

Mays' solo effort is worth looking into as he not only experiments with a change in atmosphere but also the addition of genres absent in his past albums, including hip-hop and electronica.

"I wanted to do as many different genres as I could," Mays explains. "A lot of people like different kinds of music. A lot of people like rock music and hip-hop music so I figured it'd be kind of cool for somebody to be able to hear a lot of their favourite kinds of music on one record."



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Making friends with
dinosaurs since 1910.

Tideland washes strange things ashore

Tideland

Directed By Terry Gilliam
Starring Jeff Bridges, Jodelle Ferland
and Jennifer Tilly
Runs 26-29 January
Metro Cinema

JOEL TIEDEMANN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Heralded as a mix between *Alice in Wonderland* and *Psycho*, Terry Gilliam's *Tideland* will leave audiences in a state of shock and confusion. This film doesn't shy away from any topic; instead, it deals with everything from a child's dream world to heroin abuse to human taxidermy.

The original script for the film was derived from the novel of the same title written by New Mexican author Mitch Cullin. The story details the life of a young girl named Jeliza-Rose (Jodelle Ferland) who's brought up in a less than orthodox household. The film opens with a scene where young Jeliza is cooking up a batch of heroin for her junkie parents. She fills the syringes, tightens the tourniquets and looks after her parents while they're off on their "vacations."

Although the acting throughout the film is fairly decent, there are a few moments where it edges upon being slightly overdramatic. During the early stages of the movie, Jeliza's mother dies from a heroin overdose in a horribly contrived and terribly acted death scene, spurring her doped-up father to pack up their belongings, hop aboard a Greyhound bus and flee for the prairies. They're let off, seemingly in the middle of nowhere, and we learn that the duo has come to inhabit a long-abandoned farmhouse, which once belonged to Jeliza's grandmother.

Immediately upon arrival, Jeliza's father slips into a heroin induced haze, from which he does not recover. Left to her own devices, the young girl begins to explore her newfound landscape and discovers that even though her new home is remotely located, some strange neighbours can



be found within walking distance. These neighbours consists of a mentally handicapped fellow clad in a wetsuit, speedo and snorkelling mask as well as his sister who is constantly dressed in a beekeeper's suit due to her overwhelming phobia of bees. The remainder of the movie details young Jeliza's interactions with this peculiar pair as she experiences many odd events including human embalming, sexual advances and the effects of dynamite on a train.

For any prospective viewers, let me say outright that this movie is straight-up weird.

The film constantly switches between reality and fantasy, as the inner workings of a young child's dream world are one of the main driving forces behind the production. Although the fantasy scenes are quite surreal, they seem somewhat less bizarre when compared to the peculiar real world in which Jeliza lives. Even though many of the scenes in the film are quite outlandish, they allow the director to use some very clever camera shots that may not have been possible while filming a

more conventional movie.

Young Jeliza-Rose's character is also not entirely normal. The child has no toys, save for four Barbie doll heads (that's right, heads only) with whom she holds lengthy conversations and whom she considers to be her friends. Despite the strange scripting for this character, ten-year-old actress Jodelle Ferland does a fabulous job of playing her odd role. Her southern accent—although sometimes annoying—is flawless, and she accurately portrays the emotions and behaviors of a typical preteen.

For any prospective viewers, let me say outright that this movie is straight-up weird. Some scenes are so peculiar I couldn't believe what I was seeing and others were just outright disturbing. Going into this film, you should know that you aren't going to get a flowery story about a young girl who perseveres despite the shortcomings of her parents. If you enjoy the occasional movie that is a little bit off the wall, than by all means you should definitely check out *Tideland*; just go in with an open mind. If you are more of a traditionalist, I would recommend staying far, far away from this film. The jacket of the novel *Tideland* is adorned with a quotation which reads, "Fucking brilliant," but I would suggest the film be adorned with the quote, "Fucking strange."

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JESSE WHITEHEAD

THAT'S A LOT OF MUSIC Brenda Dalen stands before the collection of records that helped create the compilation.

All folkways lead to Edmonton

University of Alberta researcher Brenda Dalen helps transform the personal music collection of Moe Asch into a CD filled with classic Canadian folk songs



Classic Canadian Songs
Various Artists
Smithsonian Folkways Recordings

MARIA KOTOVYCH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

What do a 98-year-old African-Canadian man from Nova Scotia and an old bachelor homesteading in Alberta have in common? Both men's stories are featured in the new CD, *Classic Canadian Songs*, released by University of Alberta's folkwaysAlive! and Smithsonian Folkways Recordings in Washington, DC.

The songs on the CD are the best of the Canadian folk songs collected in the 1950s and 1960s by ethnomusicologists working with Moses "Moe" Asch and Samuel Gesser of Folkways Records.

Songs from all regions of Canada, and also from different cultural groups, are featured on *Classic Canadian Songs*. For instance, the song "The Welcome Table," performed by 98-year-old Charles Owens and his family in their Nova Scotia kitchen in 1956, is an example of an African-Canadian jubilee song. French-Canadian, Métis, Nootka, Cree, and a Yiddish children's song are

also featured on the album. In addition, a song called "The Ballad of Weldon Chan," while sung in English, tells the tale of a Chinese-Canadian immigrant and the hardships he faced in Canada.

"The songs give an impression of the importance of establishing connections and making friends and creating communities," says Brenda Dalen, Research Associate with folkwaysAlive! "Sometimes [connections] are within a particular cultural group or region, but also, sometimes music has a way often of making it possible for people of various backgrounds to communicate in some way—to learn each other's songs, to learn each other's dances—and that social aspect was very important."

Along with graduate students Allison Fairbairn and Jessica Keyes, Dalen compiled the record from the personal collection of music Moe Asch, which was left to the U of A before he passed away.

The '60s and '70s were a time when Canada was figuring out its national identity, and therefore, the CD tries to focus on the songs of the people who built the country.

"[The collection is] an absolute treasure trove of material that many people remember, because in spite of the fact that it's not the Top 100 on the charts, in many cases, people within their families have continued to perform this music," Dalen explains.

Dr Regula Qureshi, director of folkwaysAlive!, conducted initial negotiations for the CD and Dr R Gary Kachanoski, Vice-President (Research) at the U of A, set up the

partnership between folkwaysAlive! and Smithsonian Folkways. One of the songs in the disc also served as the subject of Fairbairn's Master's thesis.

Dalen explains that to begin the project, she, Fairbairn and Keyes sat down to listen to the 1000-plus Canadian tracks that existed in Asch's collection. From those songs, they selected the tunes they felt best represented classic Canadian folk music.

"We wanted to look at the hard work that went into building Canada and the people—not the politicians, not the big important people who created Canada—but the people who were actually working the land and settling it," Fairbairn says. "[We wanted to know] what their stories were."

Ethnomusicologists travelled across the country to record folk musicians, many of whom weren't known nationally, but who were recognized as important within their local communities. Most of the songs on the CD were collected in the 1950s and 1960s, and the CD represents songs from each region of Canada.

Dalen mentions that music and community are two important aspects of being Canadian, and that music is one vehicle through which people of different backgrounds who settled in Canada could find common ground.

While some of the songs are political, most of them feature different themes than the politically driven American folk music being performed at that same time, explains Fairbairn.

"[Canadian folk music] was about life experience, what it was like to live and build a country," Fairbairn says.



JAMES CHAULK

HE'S GOT A BAD BITE Mark Feduk and the rest of his Edmonton-based band played the Sidetrack Cafe on Friday night.

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Anti-Flag anti-establishment, pro love songs



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For Blood and Empire
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JOHN KMECH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

If you like your punk with a heavy dose of political and societal commentary, then there's the likelihood that you'll find Anti-Flag's latest release, *For Blood and Empire*, an excellent album. Unfortunately, the polemics of the album are also its greatest downfall, in that the guys really are preaching to the chorus. Taking a somewhat more upbeat approach than their previous releases, the band's subjects of discussion are no doubt worthy of scrutiny, such as depleted uranium and the media's effect on self-esteem. Yet Anti-Flag's razorblade-like musical execution will make most casual listeners tune out after being told to stand up and fight for the tenth time. Anti-Flag's goals are noble and there's good material here, but the band needs to realize that subtlety and nuance can be a more powerful method of making their voice heard than a direct blast to the face.

Anti-Flag

With Rise Against, Billy Talent and Moneen
Thursday, 25 January at 8pm
Rexall Place

JOHN KMECH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

When rocking against oppressive regimes or the ongoing corruption of the Bush Administration, it's crucial to have a working sound system, as veteran punk-rockers Anti-Flag discovered during their worldwide tour this year.

"We were at a May Day protest in the UK last May, and we did a free show in a club in London," explains Pat Thetic, the group's percussionist and founding member. "[The authorities] said, 'You can't let these kids in here,' so we said, 'Fuck you, we're going to do the show anyway.' So we do a show and everything's falling apart. The PA system wasn't working and everything was crazy. It was a complete disaster, but it was an amazing experience at the same time."

Despite technical problems, the concert and protest still ended up turning into the video for "War Sucks, Let's Party," one of two singles off of the group's 2006 album *For Blood and Empire*. Featuring the band immersing themselves in a crowd with English bobbies and activists alike, the video encapsulates what the band has focused on during their decade-long career: punk rock, political activism and continual touring. Having spent almost all of 2006 and now part of 2007 on the road promoting their



new album, the boys of Anti-Flag are certainly committed to their societal ideals. But could there be a softer side to the guys that once sang, "This machine kills fucking fascists?"

"The last two records have been pretty dogmatic," Thetic notes, speaking of *Empire* and 2003's *The Terror State*. "Because we're stupid, we feel as though we should say something. We should just give up and let someone else say it, but we feel as though nobody else is saying it, so we take the hit when everybody says, 'Shut the fuck up.' The world hasn't gotten any better, but we feel as though we want to talk about something else for a little bit. Maybe this next record, we will stray and have a little bit more personal freedom. So you may

see some Anti-Flag love songs in the future."

Even though some may wonder if romantic punk rock ditties may constitute an ideological about-face, the band no doubt continues to stand up for what they believe in, working in close quarters with several non-profit organizations. The group is currently donating portions of ticket sales to the African Well Fund, and works with Military Free Zone, which helps keep American students' names off of military recruitment lists.

But Thetic explained the group's most ambitious success has come due to their work on depleted uranium awareness.

"We got a Depleted Uranium Study Act to pass Congress," exclaims an

enthused Thetic. "On the record, we have a song called 'Depleted Uranium is a War Crime,' and what we were trying to do was raise people's awareness about the problems with depleted uranium. We joined together with a Congressman who put together the bill and we supported the effort to get the ideas out. It passed, so there's going to be comprehensive study of depleted uranium."

After fighting for change and still having to put up with broken PA systems, the few triumphs garnered taste that much sweeter.

"That was a victory. In political activism, victories don't happen very often," Thetic laughs. "So as far as something to celebrate, that was something to celebrate for us."

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9. RETOURNEZ LA TÊTE.
10. SQUEEZE SWEEP.



Vital signals strong for *Trauma Center*

Like its cardboard cousin, *Trauma Center* is sure to make the classic-game cut

Trauma Center: Second Opinion

Nintendo Wii
Atlus
ESRB rated T for Teen
On Sale Now

REID BUCKMASTER
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Remember Operation? That weird board game with the fat guy who had all of the missing organs and a large, red nose that lit up if you put those organs back in the wrong way? Well say hello to Operation's modern-day successor, *Trauma Center: Second Opinion*.

Now, I know what you're thinking: "Operation sucked because I could never beat my mom at it." That's okay. *Trauma Center* offers up its very own brand of thrills and twitchy excitement for Wii owners that's nothing like the dark nights of your board game past. Through competently written dialogue, stylized manga art and groundbreaking game play, *Trauma Center* shows off just how fun life-or-death surgical procedures can be.

The game has you slicing, bandaging and suturing all with the help of Nintendo's new wiz-kid, the Wii remote. The Wii-mote functions as your surgeon's hand inside the patient during the course of the missions. By selecting any tool necessary for the

job, via the analog stick on the nun chuck, players can use their forceps by pinching both the A and B buttons together (mimicking the motion one would make with real forceps) in order to pry a shard of glass from a patient's arm.

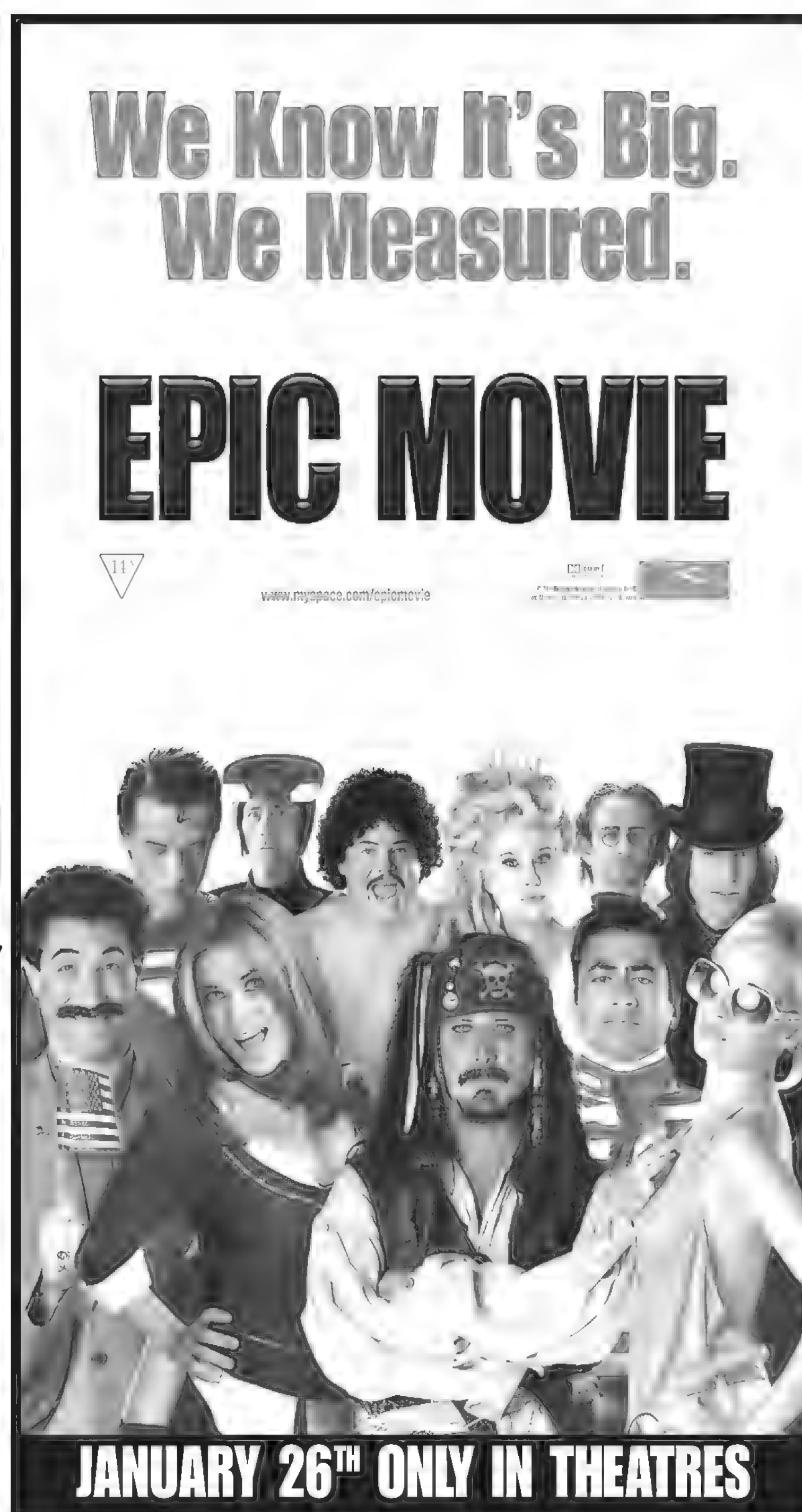
The game has you slicing, bandaging and suturing all with the help of Nintendo's new wiz-kid, the Wii remote.

Being the anime-inspired game that it is, it won't be long before *Trauma Center* takes off from the runways of reality and into the skies of terrorists-created-super-viruses that only you can stop because you have the mysterious "Healing Touch." According to a cryptic conversation with your hospital's senior surgeon near the beginning of the game, the "Healing Touch" is an unexplainable property that affords doctors unbreakable focus and unmatched surgical skill when performing an operation. What this means to you is, simply, that you get to slow down time when it matters most in order to save a patient. While it does come out on paper sounding

fairly gimmicky—after all, bullet time doesn't belong in every game—it's a technique that's absolutely necessary to use in order to progress through *Trauma Center's* lengthy storyline.

The big question with the game, though, is whether it works. Everything that's been released on the Wii so far has had this question asked of it, for obvious reasons, and with *Trauma Center*, the proof is in the pudding. Every aspect of Nintendo's new controller is put to use here and it's put to use with both style and flair. The game gets you to play with the Wii-mote and the nun chuck attachment together, but the real focus is, of course, on your dexterity with the Wii-mote. Unless you're playing on easy, you'll find out mighty quick that Atlus forgot to program forgiveness into the game. But then again, it's not as though the surgeon's table has ever been thought of as forgiving in the first place. Fortunately, you can swap difficulty settings between missions, or after having failed a mission, to adjust to your current level of frustration.

In short, *Trauma Center* is definitely something unique, challenging and, without question, worth picking up. It shows off all the best parts about playing on a system that has a gyroscopic controller and a nun chuck attachment over hi-def options and the promise of *Halo 3* or *Metal Gear Solid 4*.



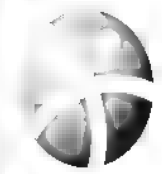
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Class Act

Dissecting the U of A's larger courses

Large classrooms are the norm on this campus, especially in first-year courses, where it's rare that a professor will get to know even a quarter of its students by name. In fact, not only do students remain nameless, but some also remain faceless—an element of large classrooms that the *Gateway* took to the test. A handful of undercover reporters immersed themselves in the largest lecture halls on campus to observe learning unfold—or in some cases, eyelids droop. Read on to find out which classes scored best.



As I walked into Dr François Larose Anthropology 101 class, I found it hard to find a seat. Tory Lecture B1 was full of eager students who already had their pens and paper out, ready to take down notes. Only a few groups here and there were having discussions about the past weekends events, but as soon as Larose began to speak there was an immediate hush in the class. All you could hear was the rustling of paper.

Throughout the entire class, students paid great attention to the lecture and laughed at the few random jokes told by the professor. Larose interacted well with the students by asking questions to test their understanding. The two boys next to me would quietly debate the answers. The lecture style ranged from open discussion, using the white board to write down key words, to a PowerPoint lecture. This allowed for the young students to learn the fine art of note taking, which all the students appeared to be quite proficient at—except for the only girl in the class who was writing “Dear Diary...” a few rows ahead of me and giggling with her two friends over a drawing she had done of a boy. I do sincerely hope that Miss Diary has nice enough friends who will share their notes with her. On the whole, I much enjoyed my first experience in an anthropology class, and would recommend attending Larose’s section.

—Nathalie Nadeau

Antropology 101

Introduction to Anthropology

MWF 2–2:50pm
TLB 1
Prof Francois Larose

Biology 107

Introduction to Cell Biology

MWF 11:50
TL 11
Prof Michael Harrington

Let me start off by saying that at 450 students, the sheer size of this class was absolutely astounding. Imaging arriv- ing at one of your lectures five minutes early and having to scan the room feverishly in a desperate attempt to find an empty seat. This is the challenge that some students in Michael Harrington’s Biology 107 class must face. With this number of students, it comes as no surprise that the entire lecture was accompanied by the constant hum of side chatter. Despite this, Harrington spoke very clearly, and even though I was seated at the very back of the theater, I never had any trouble understanding what he was saying. Every few minutes, he would pause and ask, “Are there any questions or comments about [insert topic here]?” Alas, no inquiries were ever made. At one point a student raised his hand but apparently he was seated too far back for the professor to take notice. I found it interesting that several students didn’t even bother to open notebooks and I even noticed that some were involved in what appeared to be text message conversations. My favourite part of the entire class was when the fellow beside me gave up on the lecture entirely and began playing solitaire on his iPod. Although the professor was doing his best, the immense class size was not at all conducive to student participation.

—Joel Tiedemann

For the first time in two years, I stepped into ETLC and walked into the very room that once held my very dull Biology 107 class. It’s a nice lecture hall, no doubt, but the location of the building is terrible—as could be seen by the numer- ous latecomers arriving within the first 20 minutes of the 90-minute class.

The students were attentive overall and they continually took notes. Farias encouraged class participation by asking questions, but students seemed rather shy to answer.

Nevertheless, Anatomy 200 is a surprisingly interesting. The topic of the day was the skeletal system and as someone who flunked the “name all the bones of the body” test in junior high, I was prepared to get completely lost. However, simple, colourful diagrams and the occasional use of a plaster skull projected on the screen (who knows? It could be real, as the professor mentioned later that the skull was a “she”), I found the concepts easy to follow and understand.

Farias spoke clearly and had a good sense of humour saying, “I hope no one gets nightmares tonight,” as she posi- tioned the bony face to stare (and smile) at the class in a rather lively but creepy manner.

—Kristina De Guzman

Anatomy 200

Human Morphology

TR 3:30–4:50
ETL E1 001
Prof Anna Farias

TOP PHOTO: JOSH NAULT

<div>History 115</div> <div>Technology and History</div>	<p>In my single attendance of History 115 “Technology and History,” I thought it was actually kind of cool. I learned that Aztec warfare was based on capturing prisoners for sacrifice, which is why the Spanish invader’s no POW policy brought them swift victory, but the class is just a collection of facts like this, one after another. There’s so many, in fact, that I found it intensely off-putting.</p> <p>Professor Eisler explains the content well, but there’s just so much packed into the course that students have no time to soak it in. The constant references to material in forthcoming classes also means this class is incredibly structured, leaving little time for students to play catch-up if they fall behind.</p> <p>During the first 15 minutes of class, all students were attentive to the lecture, as they furiously scribbled to take down each slide. But as class stretched on and the information kept piling up, eyes started to glaze over, pens stopped writing and the guy at the back just went to sleep. Eventually, the clickity-clack of a few home-row wielding keepers became the only signs of student attentiveness. Everyone else just balked at the unending chain of slides.</p> <p>—Paul Blinov</p>
<div>MWF 2-2:50</div> <div>TLB 45</div> <div>Prof Matthew Eisler</div>	
<p>When it comes to intro classes, the general rule is that they pretty much suck. The exception is if your instructor is awesome, and Steven Cole is. A self-admitted feminist, he seems to genuinely care about his students and want them to learn. (He’s also a total fox.) He’s funny enough that you’ll hang onto his every word so that you don’t miss one of his jokes.</p> <p>Despite wearing a T-shirt so tight that we all got tickets to the gun show, Cole seems to not only know his stuff, but love it. And that’s what makes Cole a great instructor; his passion for sociology comes through in his lectures and helps him connect with students despite the size of the class.</p> <p>Being in TL 11, there’s a huge number of students, but he made sure the microphone was loud enough and the overheads were legible for everyone at the back of the class.</p> <p>He also gave the class a generous amount of time to write down the notes and asked the students to let him know if he was going too fast.</p> <p>Tying concepts in with current events to keep them relevant, Steven Cole is not only interesting enough to keep you coming to class, he’s good enough to make sure you learn something while you’re there.</p> <p>—Megan Cleaveley</p>	<div>Sociology 100</div> <div>Introductory Sociology</div> <div>TR 2–3:20pm</div> <div>TL 11</div> <div>Prof Steven James Cole</div>
<div>Economics 101</div> <div>Introduction to Microeconomics</div>	<p>It was 10:45am and I was looking at the clock in CEB wondering why the Christ I volunteered to go to an economics class. I spent the next few minutes debating whether or not I was a good enough liar to pretend I had gone, but so far all I knew about the class was that it was on the fourth floor of CEB—and I really didn’t feel like climbing the stairs. My plan was to sit in the back and spend the next hour or so creeping on the students, but I arrived late and had to sit up front. My initial impression of Professor Gordon was that he seemed like the kind of guy who might cross check you. The class must have felt the same way since absolutely nobody was talking; everyone was adamantly paying attention to him while he talked about curves that involved supply and demand. I’m not really too sure about anything beyond that because, in an effort to maintain journalistic neutrality, I refused to take notes or learn anything. One thing I did manage to pick up on is that apparently, when you have lots of money, you will not still be eating Kraft Dinner with fancy Dijon ketchups as the Barenaked Ladies would have you believe. All in all, there seemed like there was a shit tonne of writing to do, but Gordon was really good about explaining things and engaging the class. Hell, I almost could have enjoyed myself if it weren’t for the whole economics part of it. If this is a course you have to take, then I highly recommend taking it with this guy, as he was able to take something I absolutely loathe and make it bearable. Just don’t sit in the front row if you’re tired, because that guy makes you scared to sleep.</p> <p>—Conal Pierce</p>
<div>MWF 11–11:50pm</div> <div>CEB 436</div> <div>Prof Gordon Thomas Lee</div>	
<p>Of all the interesting classes, Stats 141 would probably not qualify as one of them. If you don’t fall asleep reading the calendar’s description of statistics—with its random variables and frequency distributions, averages and variance, and the binomial and normal distribution—you would be one among the very few. Given that stats is boring, the professor for the course didn’t really go out of his way to spice up the material. As he sat at the front of the classroom, flipping through his PowerPoint slides, his mouse doing most of the work for him, I got the feeling that \$500 was going to waste.</p> <p>The class was generally quiet and relatively alert for a Friday morning. Not too surprising considering Stats 141 is a required course for all those interested in Medicine, Pharmacy and Dentistry (when and if they will use things like random variables and frequency distributions remain unknown). The point, though, is that the majority of the class was quite engaged. Questions popped up from many of the students, some to correct mistakes made in the slides, proving that their 500 bucks maybe better spent on a textbook instead of sitting in this class.</p> <p>—Kari Chan</p>	<div>Statistics 141</div> <div>Introduction to Statistics</div> <div>MWF 10-10:50</div> <div>CAB 243</div> <div>Prof Mohammed El-Atrash</div>



JOSH NAULT

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colophon

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contributors

Ross #1 in our hearts. Prusakowski, Robin Coleman, Mike Otto, Lachna Desjarais, Liz Durden, Edmon Rotea, Thomas Wagner, Olesia Poron, Ivanna Elnadea, Kristina DeGuzman, Kar Chan, Cona Perce, Megan Ceale, Paul Bon, Jennifer Huijgen, Jonn Kmech, Joe Tedemann, Mar a Koto, yon Red Backmaster, Cranam Lettner, Kirk Zempa, Tyson Durst, Matt Barrett, Adam Rozennart, The Man in the Back Heart, Chris Krause, Steve Garner, Norman Lau, Marie-Anne, Jean Morgan, Smith, Matt, L., Jane S., Oychuk, Nick Frost, Andrea Renfree, James Chaw, Jesse Antenead, Juliette Huijgen, Ph. Head, Nea, A., and Lauren Steg, Iz, Peter Yess, Jonann Brown.

COUNCIL FORUM

Compiled by Ryan Heise

Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6pm. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 6 February.

BIGGER PAWS FOR BEAR TRACKS

Students' Council opened this week with a presentation on Bear Tracks from Sheila Holmes of the Administrative Information Systems, which outlined proposed upgrades to the online registration system. The new system, slated for a major upgrade to begin in November 2007, will include access to student financial aid, awards and more account information. Other scheduled upgrades will allow for the checking of prerequisites and academic advising.

The issue of an A-Pass—a single online application for 21 postsecondary institutions in Alberta—was all also discussed. The A-Pass will allow students to easily transfer general application information such as their address and transcripts between institutions, simplifying the process. A deadline of October 2007 is in place for the system, but it's uncertain if it's achievable.

QUESTION PERIOD

A technical problem with a projector delayed the next presentation, so Council opted to move on to question period.

Students' Union Vice-President (Student Life) Omer Yusuf answered a series of questions regarding Anti-Freeze and concluded that the SU should endeavour to keep the event running. Yusuf explained that the vast majority of the funding for the event comes from sponsorships and costs the SU very little of its actual budget.

VP (Academic) Amanda Henry then answered a question regarding the spotty wireless Internet access in SUB. Henry said that the SU is currently investigating its options for expanding access points in the building as well as if there is a hardware problem causing the mediocre access.

BUT IT SEEMS THAT ALL OF THE REALLY COOL KIDS ARE DOING IT

With the projector working, Jackie Crooks from the Tobacco Reduction Action Team (TRAT) made a presentation on getting campus to butt out. Crooks told Council that this was National Non-Smoking Week and made two recommendations to the SU: to pass a resolution urging the Board of Governors to prohibit donations from the tobacco industry as well as to implement policies endorsed by the student electorate following the February 2006 plebiscite, culminating in a tobacco-free campus by July, 2007.

Members of the SU questioned Crooks about the cost of implementing such a ban as well as the safety of students if they need to leave campus to smoke. Crooks responded that the TRAT didn't have any solid answers at the time, but both of the questions have been considered.

TUITION: STILL BAD

SU President Samantha Power made a presentation regarding next year's increase in tuition. The SU had successfully lobbied for an increase based on Alberta's CPI—a total of 3.6 per cent. However, their goal of also having tuition rolled back to \$3000 failed. Power made the point that the increase in tuition hasn't improved the quality of instruction for students, as they now have to work more hours at jobs, neglecting their studies as well as student life.

The SU will be speaking with the Board of Governors on Friday regarding this issue. Power concluded that they agree with the vision for the University's future, but don't think that the money to achieve it should be coming from students.

OBEY YOUR THIRST

VP (Operations & Finance) Chris Cunningham brought forward a motion for Council to rewrite the plebiscite question regarding the Coke contract. The suggestion to add the ability to make any subsequent contracts viewable by members of the Students' Union passed and was added to the plebiscite question.

However, this topic brought up lengthy discussion and debate regarding whether or not such a question regarding the Coke contract should even be posed to students. Things got heated when Coke's ethical track record was brought up.

After a lengthy debate, the plebiscite question was again reworded to be more neutral as well as easier for students to read.

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Mike Otto

DOORCRASHER SPECIAL

At 4pm on 16 January, a male tried to walk into a home near 110 Street and 87 Avenue. He was scared off when the homeowner, after hearing suspicious noises, checked the front door and found the intruder; the suspect bolted from the home and was last seen heading towards 109 Street. He is described as skinny, dark skinned and with black hair in a ponytail.

THE HUB MOTEL

On 17 January, Campus Security was called to HUB Mall when an unwelcome guest was found sleeping in a tenant's bedroom. The man was intoxicated and found to be a student; he said he knew it wasn't his house, but he just needed to lie down. Campus Security sent him to his home in Michener Park so he could get some rest in the comfort of his own bed.

COURTEOUS CAMPER

Also on 17 January, S-O went to International House after it was reported that an unwelcome male was sleeping in the building. The snoozer was located in the first floor lounge, and was found to have several outstanding warrants related to violence and property offences. He was cooperative when removed by constables, and volunteered to await the arrival of Edmonton Police in the Campus Security office.

STREETERS

With I-Week's theme this year set as "Beyond Terror," and the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists setting the Doomsday Clock ahead two minutes, atomic war is on the mind.

What are you doing to prepare for the inevitable nuclear apocalypse?



Greg Cook
Arts II



Kori Herlein
Science I



Ryan Schlender
Engineering I



Mike Bachinsky
Phys Ed II

I would stock up on food. I've already started that, I have a lot of dried foods and canned foods. No can opener, though—that's the one issue I still have to deal with.

Duck and cover, and buy a lot of ice cream because it's going to melt so you have to eat it quick. Or I could bathe in the puddles of melted ice cream.

I'd stock up on Wheaties, because you've got to have something to eat, and they're high in fibre and very good for you.

I'd take my truck and drive it to the mountains. Then I'd find a cave, stock up on food and water, and become friends with bears. Pretty much the Osama bin Laden strategy.

Compiled and photographed by Steve Smith and Ross Prusakowski



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FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE



FILE PHOTO: LAUREN STIEGLITZ

TIGHTENING UP The Pandas need to clamp down on Saskatchewan's scorers this weekend.

MAKING LAYUPS Lack of intensity has cost the Golden Bears some easy buckets this season.

Alberta, Sask set for first-place showdowns

Crooks, Dutchak stand between Pandas and divisional top spot

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

For the first time since the 2002/03 women's basketball season, the fourth-ranked Saskatchewan Huskies may not win the Canada West Central Division. When the Huskies (12-4) come to town this weekend to take on the sixth-ranked Pandas (12-4), first place and a first-round playoff bye will be on the line.

"It'll be huge for the team who wins [first-place] just so they get that rest before the playoffs start. Otherwise, to try and win a National Championship, we're going to go ten straight weekends, and that's a boatload for these kids to handle," Alberta head coach Scott Edwards said.

"We can't seem to get rid of each other—we're neck-and-neck all the time," added third-year Alberta forward Natalie Kiernan. "[Saskatchewan's] fun to play against—they're really competitive games—but it's always in the back of your mind that we're competing for the division title."

With four meetings per year, the Pandas and Huskies have developed a familiarity with each other, but Edwards denies calling it a rivalry, noting that Saskatchewan has clearly had the upper hand the past few seasons—the Huskies have taken ten of the past 14 meetings between the two teams—and that the teams haven't developed the animosity seen in other rivalries around the conference.

"I don't think it's a rivalry until you beat somebody. They're a well-coached team; they play hard basketball—they aren't cheap or dirty—it's really a class organization, so it's always fun when you can compete against people you respect,"

Edwards said.

In order to end the Huskies' three-year run atop the division, the Pandas must first slow their top duo of Sarah Crooks and Ashley Dutchak, who're averaging 25.9 and 19.9 points per game respectively this season—good for second and third in the conference. Crooks also surpassed the CIS women's record for career rebounding by grabbing her 1066th board against SFU this weekend.

"We need to make Dutchak work hard on both ends of the floor; make her the ball-handler; make her have to defend for 94 feet; make her have to work hard running off screens and tire her out," Edwards explained. "As for Crooks, we need to keep her out of the low-post as much as we can, get a hand up on her jump shot and really be physical with her so she doesn't get to the glass as well."

"We've got really good defenders on our team, so we'll definitely key on [Crooks and Dutchak]. It's just a matter of not giving Dutchak open looks from the three-point line and with Crooks, you just have to be physical with her; they're scorers, that's what they do, but we can keep them under wraps," Kiernan said.

On the other side of the ball, the Pandas need to turn around a struggling offence that has seen them average only 72.7 points per game since the break, down from 79.6 before it.

"We've got to get back to shooting the ball well. We haven't [done that] in a long, long time, and we've been in foul trouble every game this term. We need to get back to the good things we were doing: moving the ball well, playing good team offence and moving our feet a little better on defence," Edwards said.

The games tip off at 6pm on Friday and Saturday in the Main Gym.

Bears looking to clinch top spot, playoff bye versus rival Huskies

NICK FROST
Sports Staff

The Golden Bears basketball team (12-4) will look to widen their division lead when they host the University of Saskatchewan Huskies (10-6) this weekend; something they failed to accomplish in their first matchup against the Saskatoonians.

After splitting their first series with the Huskies on a November road trip, Bears coach Don Horwood noted that his team's initial inconsistencies and mental lapses were the largest reasons for Alberta's turbulent play, which eventually spiralled into a three-game losing streak.

"The first night against Saskatchewan, I'd say we worked really hard and had a lot of intensity. But, then, on that second night, their intensity was really high and ours was just missing. The other thing that we were inconsistent with is our decision-making, which I think a large part of has to do, again, with intensity level—they kind of go hand-in-hand," Horwood said, noting that the problem has caused a lot of mental errors—turnovers, missed layups poor free-throw shooting—in his teams' four losses this season.

Since the game against Saskatchewan that spurred the losing skid, tenth-ranked Alberta has lost only twice—once to Calgary in non-conference play over Christmas and again to the Dinos on 6 January—and have opened a two-game lead on the Huskies atop the Central Division. Horwood believes that Alberta and Saskatchewan are, for the most part, evenly matched in their starting lineups which means he'll have to look to the bench to take the edge

off the visitors.

"Saskatchewan is a very solid team—they've got, as far as I'm concerned, the top player in the league right now: Andrew Spagrud," Horwood said of the Huskies' 6'7" star who is leading the conference with 24.4 points per game and 10.0 rebounds per game. "He can jump, he's really quick and his rebounding is fantastic. He's so quick to the boards that he can dominate simply from his rebounding. His team can get several second opportunities because of him, and he can feed it to one of outside shooters: Kyle Grant, Jordan Harbridge and Rejean Chabot."

It's those secondary players who have beaten the Bears in the past, as Chabot and Grant combined for 36 points in their November victory.

The stakes are high for both teams this weekend, as it's their last head-to-head matchup of the season and the best opportunity to secure home-court advantage and a bye through the first round of the playoffs. With a sweep, the Bears can move four wins ahead of the Huskies for first-place and ensure they receive that bye, while a pair of victories for the Green and White will put the Huskies in the driver's seat, level with the Bears but holding the head-to-head tiebreaker should both teams finish even at season's end.

"If we split, everything's still up in the air the following weekend, and the weekend after that, and Saskatchewan are coming in knowing that as well, that they'll have to win both to have a chance at finishing first," Horwood said. "Basically, we're down to the fine strokes—they're probably going to look at this as a playoff game, and we're looking on it the same way. It's that important to us."

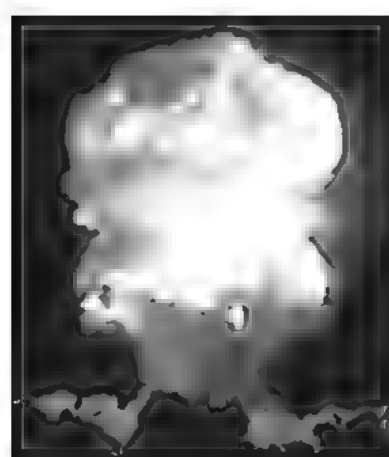
Tipoff at the Main Gym goes both Friday and Saturday at 8pm.



FILE PHOTO: LIZ DURDEN

TAKE IT BACK TO THE SIDETRACK If this guy's playing halftime at the Super Bowl, it's probably time for a beer run.

Super Bowl show must turn down suck, turn up Zeppelin



GATEWAY
SPORTS STAFF

1999 than a bunch of tykes falling all over each other.

Robin Collum

Unless this year's headliners surprise us with a strip show or get booed until they cry, people won't be talking about the halftime show around the water cooler following the Super Bowl. And of course, a few people may mention the game itself, but the real reason they'll be watching the NFL final is the commercials.

The Super Bowl is probably the one television event of the year where instead of muting the ads and getting another beer, people actually want to watch them. They are almost guaranteed to be funny, interesting and exhibit the highest imaginable production values. Halftime concerts are never that great, especially when you're watching them on TV. The artist will be trying their hardest to get the attention of a group of people who're there to see something else in a building that doesn't have particularly good acoustics. I highly doubt the crowd at the Super Bowl really wants to see a tiny little man who hasn't had a memorable song since skinny jeans were cool the first time. Unless they can get the Rolling Stones every year, the NFL should skip the whole thing and just air half an hour of ads on the Jumbotron. It'll be more fun for everyone.

Janelle Sloychuk

There's nothing quite like writing off an entire day to watch the hours of quality pre-game, post-game, and commercial television that come along with the Super Bowl. And then there's the halftime show. An innovator, it's been the first for many things: competition never before seen in the advertising world, last year's censorship of geriatric performers, and, of course, both latent and live nudity.

With the infamous Janet Jackson wardrobe malfunction nearly three years behind us, the world has recovered relatively unscathed, unless you count having everything on an eight-second delay scathed. In fact, thanks to Janet and Justin a few of us have emerged as improved critical evaluators with a broader knowledge of nipple jewelry. However scandalous the event was deemed, hypersexual

images and partial nudity is, sadly, the underpinning of our society; the true scandal was the blatant gender inequality.

That is why for Super Bowl XLI, I would like to see some partial male nudity. Now I'm not asking for a lot—nothing supernatural—just when the predominantly male streakers come out, instead of cutting to a wide-shot view of the stadium, let the viewing public in on the entire Super Bowl experience. Now, since it has announced that Prince is to be this year's halftime show performer, partial male nudity in this instance must be avoided at all costs, but there's always hope that next year, a little beefcake is on the menu. Guys always want their women to watch more sports, the least they can do is appeal to us during halftime.

Andrew Renfree

Apparently, it's *faux pas* to have exposed breasts at the Super Bowl, so my first idea for the ultimate halftime show got shot down. Damn the FCC, and its prudish ways! Plan B will have to suffice. But before we determine the best, let's eliminate the crappy options. First, rap or pop artists should be banned from performing at the Super Bowl. Live music of this genre is often bad enough in a club, let alone on a stage with a sound system that were assembled in five minutes. That leaves us with rock, which appeals more to the average NFL fan than Justin Timberlake ever will; he should take his sexy back to Memphis, and keep it far from Miami.

The recent trend has been to resurrect a classic rock band that has had great appeal over the years. Because the Super Bowl recently featured the Stones, Aerosmith, Paul McCartney and U2, why not feature a one-time-only performance by the remaining members of Led Zeppelin? Yes, I know that the legendary rockers disbanded when drummer John Bonham died in 1980, but the other three members are still alive and kicking, and where better to have a reunion than one of the most-watched sporting events in the world? Classics like "Black Dog" or "Kashmir" will have fans forgetting they're even watching a football game, which will be good if it's as boring last year's final.

Paul Owen

After Nelly Furtado's abomination of a halftime performance at the 2006 Grey Cup, the bar is particularly low for the NFL to entertain during the break of their showcase event. Of course, that didn't stop them from digging Prince out of an early retirement to perform at halftime, or have Elton John sing the national anthem in what will surely be one of the most flamboyantly dressed duos in recent memory.

That said, the choice of Prince really isn't that bad. The guy could very well put on a captivating performance, which is more than can be said of recent acts such as Shania Twain, whose mesmerizing breasts were the best part of Super Bowl XXXVII. In fact, as the NFL continues its throw-back era that featured the Rolling Stones last year and Paul McCartney the year before, maybe resurrecting the Purple One to perform with the University of Miami marching band is the best thing they could have conceivably done. Lord knows he's better than Nelly Furtado.

However, what they really should have looked into doing was getting a bunch of peewee football players out onto the field for a mini-game while the big guys are catching their breath. Nothing makes a crowd party like it's

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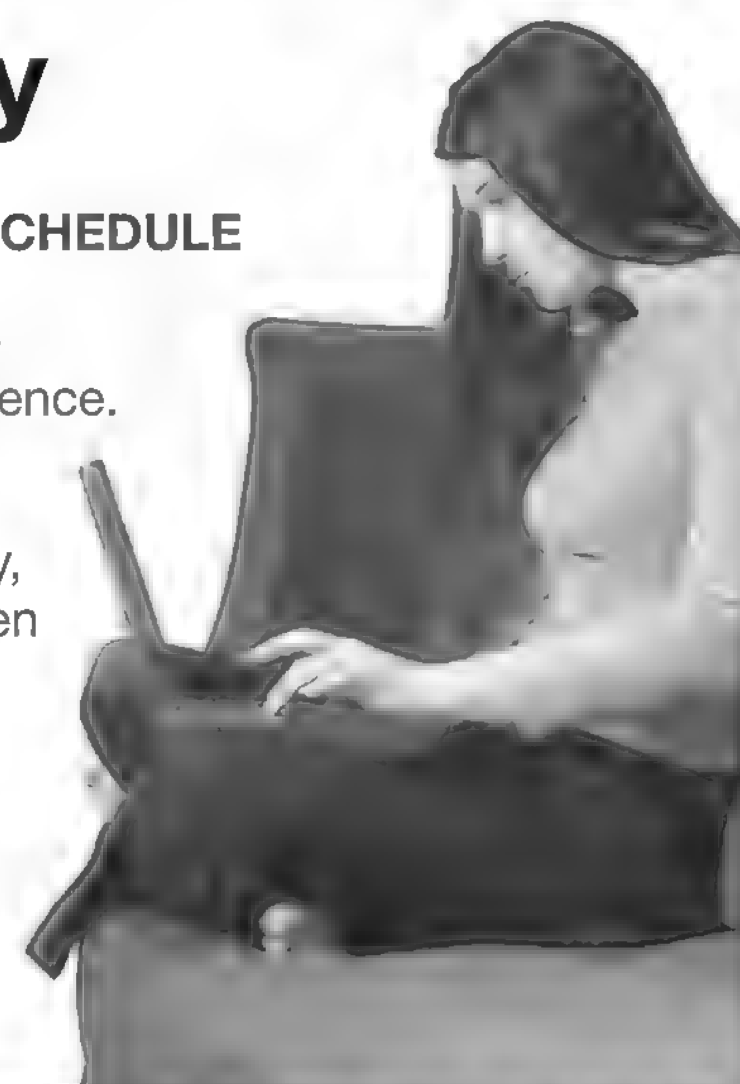
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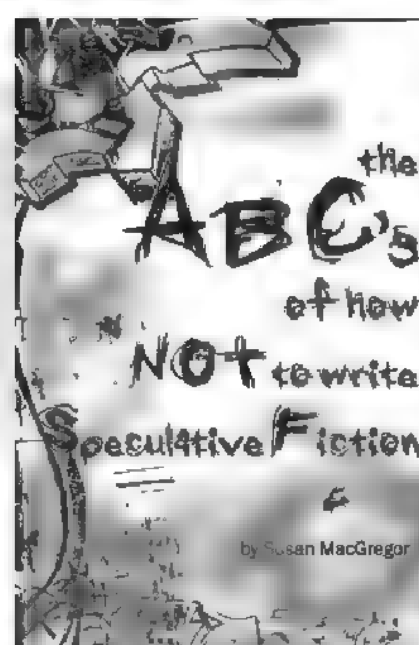
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Stretch run begins for Bears

Weekend set against UBC starts road to playoffs for top-ranked volley squad

JANELLE SLOYCHUK
Sports Writer

With the end of the regular season now in sight, the Golden Bears volleyball team is focusing on furthering their campaign to regain CIS glory against UBC this weekend in a pair of matches in the Main Gym.

The 12-0 Alberta squad spent much of the early part of the season beating up on the bottom-dwellers of Canada West, but the Thunderbirds—the only team to beat Alberta during the last two regular seasons—will offer a good warm-up for the national final rematch that will take place in two weeks when the Bears host the Trinity Western Spartans.

"We're building on the process that we've been going through the whole season," third-year right side Joel Schmuland said. "We've had a really good draw where we've started out with some of the teams that are lower ranked and have worked our way up, and our last game [of the regular season] is against Trinity Western: they're our national rivals from last year, so we're just going to keep building."

The sixth-ranked T-birds (11-3), whose roster features Andrew Bonner and Christoph Eichbaum who have combined for 312 kills this season, will be looking to boost their record taking on the top-ranked Golden Bears. Alberta, on the other hand, is focusing on rounding out their game before entering the final playoff stretch.

"Right now we're focusing on things that need to get done," head coach Terry Danyluk said. "We haven't done specific preparation for the teams that we play against; it's more about isolating one or two things and continuing to improve the things we're working on ourselves. The big thing is to solidify our defensive systems a little bit [such as] blocking on defence, and getting back to the more consistent serving game that we had in the first half."

While Alberta has made a consistent season-long effort, their most recent matches against their provincial rivals from Calgary may have been a bit of a wake-up call for the Bears, according to Schmuland. Alberta swept Calgary, but the Dinos pushed the Bears to five sets last Friday night.

"Against Calgary we didn't have the fundamentals down from the beginning," Schmuland explained. "Underestimating a team [has been a



JOHANN BROWN

THIS GOING TO HURT Derek Proudfoot (13) is a leader for Alberta.

problem for us]. Our first match against Calgary, they came out on fire, and we underestimated them a little bit."

Alberta, however, has been able to overcome a couple of poor starts this season thanks in large part to Schmuland, whose 4.1 kills per game lead the conference, and fourth- and fifth-year middles Adam Kaminski and Derek Proudfoot, who between them average 2.4 blocks per game.

"Joel has been having quite a successful year, different guys have played well I thought our middles like Derek

Proudfoot and Adam Kaminski played really well on Saturday," Danyluk said. "Every night it's been different guys who have contributed. Instead of looking for one or two guys to put pressure on, I'm looking for everyone to step up."

The inter-provincial showdown will take place in the Main Gym on Saturday and Sunday at 2pm. Saturday's game will be the first in a rare triple-header at the Gym, leading into Saturday night's men's and women's basketball matchups.



PETE YEE

DUDE, THERE'S A BAR THERE The track team jumped both physical and metaphorical hurdles this past weekend.

Podloski golden for Pandas, country

ANDREW RENFREE
Sports Staff

Tarin Podloski may have to break down and get a new trophy case. After winning CIS gold and silver medals with the Pandas in the last two years, the third-year winger earned her second gold medal from the Canadian Under-22 team just two weeks ago in Ravensburg, Germany. Pods, as her teammates call her, also was the CIS Rookie of the Year in 2004/05, her first year with the Pandas. Her most recent gold medal could be seen as just another one for her growing collection, but she explains that wearing the Maple Leaf was exceptionally memorable.

"It was an amazing experience. Obviously, it's a great honour to represent your country and I'm very thankful that I had the opportunity," she said, adding that her accomplishments with the Pandas hold even more prominence in her heart.

Team Canada was made up of Canadian junior hockey players who currently compete in CIS or NCAA women's hockey. Canada won the gold medal over host Germany 6-1; it was the fifth consecutive gold for the gals in red and white. While it was a team of some of the best young players in women's hockey, Podloski mentioned that it was a challenge to adjust to playing on a different line. All season she has played on the best line in CIS, alongside Lindsay McAlpine and Jenna Barber—the trio have combined for 121 points on the year.

"It was definitely a challenge [working with new linemates]," Podloski explained. "Playing with [McAlpine and Barber] for the last couple of



FILE PHOTO: NEAL WILDING

SHE REALLY KNOWS HOW TO SCORE Tarin Podloski (81) puts the puck past all goalies, from Lethbridge to Germany.

months we really got to know each other—we know where we are on the ice at all times. [With Team Canada] I was with two linemates who'd never played together before, and it was a struggle in the beginning to adjust to each other's play, but we were able to pull it off in the end."

Podloski took practice off on Tuesday after undergoing a minor groin injury during a practice drill on Monday. However, she expects to play against the Lethbridge Pronghorns, who'll visit Clare Drake Arena this weekend. Still, Pandas head coach Howie Draper expressed concern over the condition of his star forward.

"To be honest, I'd rather that Tarin take time off now and be ready for playoffs if she's not entirely healthy,"

Draper noted. "She'd probably rather be practicing, but at this point her health is more important."

With or without Podloski, Alberta is expected to breeze past Lethbridge as the Pandas have outscored their southern rivals 27-2 in their first four meetings of the season. Looking at past scores, Alberta is definitely favoured this weekend; however, Lethbridge will be the more desperate team as they struggle to make the playoffs. Draper's squad learned the danger of playing a desperate team last Saturday when they were upset by Saskatchewan 3-1 for Alberta's second loss of the season.

"[Saskatchewan] battled very hard, and as a result they won," Draper said. "We were coming off an 8-0 win and

maybe we thought we could take the night off and still be successful, but it proved wrong."

Draper added that he's expecting tough competition from now until national finals.

"I hope that we get that kind of competition for the rest of the year. We know we're going to be in the playoffs and we know we have to get better before playoffs come around," he said. "I welcome the competition and as much as I hate to say it, I think it's good for us to face losses and we have to be reminded every now and then how crappy that feeling is. I think ultimately, though, it'll make us stronger."

The games against the 'Horns are scheduled for 7pm tomorrow and Saturday.

SPORTS SHORTS

by Paul Owen

Pandas Volleyball

While the men stay at home this week, the fourth-ranked Pandas (11-3) head out to the left coast to take on the seventh-ranked UBC Thunderbirds (11-5). The Pandas are coming off a pair of victories over the Simon Fraser Clan. Maybe SFU should have stayed in the NAIA.

Bears Hockey

Second-year goaltender Aaron Sorochan is the Hudsons on Campus Athlete of the Week. I'd congratulate Sorochan if this award actually meant something.

Swimming

In an upset to end all upsets, or at least what would amount to one if people followed swimming in this country, the Calgary Dino men knocked off the UBC Thunderbirds to win the Canada West title last weekend in Calgary. Alberta finished third in the conference in the men's competition and fifth in the women's. The bronze comes on the backs, arms and legs of Doug Rawlick, Robbie Stanger, Jian-lok Chang and Adam Amer, who won bronze in the 4x200m freestyle relay and Chang, A. Mahoney, Ben Adam and Michael Downey who also took third in the 4x100m freestyle relay.

Shorts

Around the office, Joe Boxer and Hanes are most popular with Jockey and Eddie Bauer also being worn on occasion. The guys seems to favour dark colours, too.



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Un vin et fromage particulier Pan's Labyrinth

OMAYRA ISSA
Reportage

Il y a deux genres d'étudiants dans le monde universitaire; ceux qui trouvent des défaillances dans leurs programmes d'études et y cherchent des solutions, et les autres. Les étudiants du programme de commerce bilingue qui se sont rencontrés pour un « vin et fromage » le 10 janvier 2007 au Campus Saint Jean font vraisemblablement partis de la première catégorie. Le mérite de cet événement réside dans l'idée avant gardiste qu'ont eue ces étudiants. Ils se sont réunis avec leurs professeurs et les responsables de leur programme pour discuter des possibilités de changement et d'amélioration de leurs conditions d'études.

Il faut reconnaître que le caractère bilingue de leur programme n'est pas sans prix. « Nous n'avons pas assez de cours en Français et avons des problèmes de logistique », nous confie Badeia Jawhari, l'organisatrice de l'évènement. Voyageant quotidiennement entre le Campus Saint Jean et la Business School de l'université d'Alberta, ces étudiants avaient alors voulu se rapprocher du programme de commerce unilingue dispensé en Anglais à la Business School.

En rencontrant les responsables de leur programme de commerce bilingue dans un groupe unifié, ces étudiants ont pu s'assurer qu'ils auront non seulement plus de cours en Français, mais aussi qu'ils verront à l'avenir l'émergence de programmes bilingues supplémen-

taires en Co op. « Nous avons ainsi pu avoir des réponses à nos questions », confie Badeia Jawhari, et « j'encourage tous ceux qui sont déjà inscrit dans le programme de commerce bilingue à y rester », continua t elle. Il y va sans dire que le boom économique albertain que tous reconnaissent n'est pas au désavantage de ces étudiants en commerce bilingue. Les deux facultés ont reconnu leurs besoins et s'attèlent à y répondre convenablement. Il serait intéressant de voir à l'avenir tous les étudiants dans la capacité de rencontrer ceux qui créent leurs programmes, afin de leur suggérer des changements. S'il les étudiants de la première catégorie l'ont fait, pourquoi pas ceux de la deuxième? Après tout, n'est ce pas là l'idée derrière le concept d'université?

Pan's Labyrinth

Réalisé par Guillermo Del Toro
Avec Sergi Lopez Maribel Verdu et Ivana Baquero
En ce moment à South Edmonton Common

ROMAIN CHAREYRON
Arts et Spectacles

Il est des histoires dont personne ne souhaite être le héros. Telle est la pensée qui assaille le spectateur au sortir de Pan's Labyrinth, le dernier film de Guillermo del Toro, qui nous conte les aventures de la jeune Ofelia (Ivana Baquero) dans une Espagne mise à feu et à sang, au lendemain de la guerre civile. Nous faisons sa connaissance, ainsi que celle de sa mère Carmen (Ariadna Gil), alors qu'elles s'apprêtent à emménager dans la demeure isolée du nouveau mari de cette dernière, le capitaine Vidal (Sergi Lopez), un être sanguinaire qui mène une lutte féroce contre les opposants au régime de Franco. Prise entre ce nouveau père tyrannique et sa mère, affaiblie par sa grossesse, la jeune fille va dès lors habiter un monde dont elle seule a la clé et où l'imaginaire le dispute au réel, nous entraînant avec elle dans un univers où les frontières du temps et de l'espace sont abolies, une sorte de no man's land propice à l'émergence de l'inconnu. Néanmoins, il n'est nullement question du doux et confortable univers féérique qui peuple les livres dont se nourrit la jeune fille. Ici, la terreur, bien réelle, des êtres pris dans la débâcle de la Seconde Guerre Mondiale se retrouve également dans l'univers peuplé de créatures inquiétantes au sein duquel évolue Ofelia. Si le film vibre au rythme de l'enfance meurtrie, son univers est, quant à lui, destiné à un public adulte qui saura pleinement en apprécier toute la profondeur et la richesse.

C'est d'ailleurs cette habile appropriation de l'univers et des codes du conte de fées qui donne au film toute

son intensité. A l'instar de L'échine du diable (2001), l'un de ses précédents films où il faisait déjà s'entrelacer subtilement réel et fantastique, del Toro joue sur la tension constante qui naît de la rencontre de ces deux univers. Il sait pour cela doser ses effets puisque ces deux mondes ne coexistent pas au dépend l'un de l'autre, mais communiquent, fusionnent, afin de faire ressortir ce qui constitue le point névralgique du film, à savoir, les horreurs du réel et leur impact sur les vies d'innocents. Ni tout à fait film d'angoisse ou bien film fantastique, Pan's Labyrinth est avant tout un drame déchirant, une réflexion

“Les qualités purement cinématographiques de l'œuvre ne sont également pas étrangères à sa réussite.”

sur la vie et la mort hantée par une profonde mélancolie, de celles qui naissent à la vision des vies avortées, des cœurs ravagés et des destins gâchés.

Les qualités purement cinématographiques de l'œuvre ne sont également pas étrangères à sa réussite. Cette élogie sur la fin de l'innocence est effectivement mise en images avec un talent aussi grand qu'indéniable. La sublime photographie et les jeux entre les tons froids bleutés et la chaleur des couleurs ocres offrent une belle métaphore des élans humains qui portent le film, entre espoir et abandon, enchantement et effroi. Son parti pris pour la noirceur et la face obscure de l'humanité finissent de faire de ce film une œuvre dense, inclassable, dont le souvenir nous hante longtemps après sa vision.

Ce monde entre modernité et archaïsme

RACHEL BARTHÉLEMY
Opinion

Avec le développement technologique, les hommes pensaient avoir une vie meilleure. Mais maintenant, en mettant tout en perspective, on se doit de se poser une question: est-ce que le monde dans lequel on vit aujourd'hui, est meilleur à celui que nos arrière-grands-parents ont connu? Est-ce qu'on vit vraiment dans un monde meilleur, ou dans un monde en constante dégradation? La modernité est-elle à l'avantage de notre santé et de nos conditions de vie? La technologie, les inventions ont-elles vraiment améliorées la vie sur terre, ou au contraire, la détruisent-elles petit à petit? Est-ce que la « facilité » est synonyme de santé ou de mort à petit feu?

On voit partout des catastrophes dites naturelles, mais qui honnêtement découlent de la manipulation humaine d'éléments dits naturels. On parle de plus en plus de pollution de

tous genres, d'effondrements de terrains, de fonte de glaciers, et surtout du danger et de la menace à la vie humaine que cela pose. Mais la question est, comment en sommes-nous arrivés là?

Est-ce que le monde meilleur que nous cherchons doit être un monde dans lequel il serait facile de vivre et où la vie se résumerait aux mottos : « boulot-métro-dodo » et « le temps, c'est de l'argent... », ou voulons-nous par contre, un monde sain dans lequel il ferait bon de vivre? Est-ce que nous voulons un monde où l'on peut profiter de l'air, de la nature à l'état brut, sans se soucier des conséquences néfastes qui peuvent suivre? Pourtant, il faut noter qu'à force d'évoluer, la vie se dégrade; qu'à force de nager dans les facilités, on nage vers une fin plus rapide.

Aujourd'hui, on se rend compte que ce ne sont pas seulement les pays industrialisés qui sont touchés par ces catastrophes. Les pays en voie de

développement sont tout aussi victimes de la dégradation de la qualité de vie que le sont les pays qui sont dits développés. Dans un pays d'Afrique, Bénin où la capitale est Cotonou, des tests au niveau atmosphérique montrent le degré étonnamment élevé de composantes polluantes dans l'air.

Le gaz que dégagent les mototaxis cause en grande partie la pollution. Un phénomène qui a débuté depuis que les Béninois ont commencé à utiliser ces engins pour se déplacer plus facilement et plus rapidement. Les gaz nocifs pour la santé et l'environnement provoquent de subites maladies comme la toux, la grippe, et après une journée de dur labeur, le chauffard se retrouve avec un poumon complètement sale et usé. Est-ce qu'on peut appeler un monde meilleur?

Ce que nous croyons faussement être une évolution et un développement n'est en fait qu'une tragédie masquée. Il est grand temps de reconsidérer le monde dans lequel nous vivons.

Guantánamo canadien pour des immigrants musulmans?

MORGANE LAPEYRE
Le Délit Français (McGill)

MONTRÉAL (PUC) -- Depuis plus de cinq ans, les Égyptiens Mahmoud Jaballah et Mohammed Mahjoub et le Syrien Hassan Almrei sont détenus au Canada sans accusations ni preuves, en vertu d'un certificat de sécurité, c'est-à-dire qu'ils sont considérés comme des menaces à la sécurité nationale.

C'est pour mettre fin aux procès secrets qui selon eux « blessent la démocratie canadienne », que des membres de la Coalition de justice pour Adil Charkaoui, ce père de famille marocain arrêté en mai 2003 sous ce même certificat, puis libéré sous condition en février 2005, ont manifesté ce lundi devant les portes de Citoyenneté et Immigration Canada.

Les manifestants se sont rassem-

blés à huit heures du matin sous la neige et sous surveillance policière, brandissant des pancartes. Messages percutants et énumération des problèmes de santé engendrés par une trop longue période de grève de la faim ont attiré l'attention des piétons et des automobilistes à qui les manifestants ont distribué des tracts. On y apprend que Mohammad Mahjoub jeûne depuis cinquante-quatre jours, Hassan Almrei et Mahmoud Jaballah depuis quarante-trois.

Soupçonnés d'être rattachés à un groupe islamiste extrémiste et « d'être membres de la cellule dormante d'Al-Qaïda », d'après les propos d'un membre de la Coalition, ces trois musulmans ont été transférés de leur prison de Toronto et sont désormais condamnés à demeurer, depuis avril 2006 et pour une durée indéterminée,

entre les murs du Centre de surveillance de l'immigration de Kingston.

« Comme les captifs de la prison de Guantánamo à Cuba, nous sommes détenus indéfiniment », expriment-ils dans une lettre ouverte adressée à la population canadienne dans l'espoir de sensibiliser les gens à leur situation et d'obtenir, si ce n'est la liberté, au moins d'être entendu devant une cour.

Les trois détenus écrivent qu'« il y a [...] une limite à ce que des êtres humains peuvent tolérer. » « Leurs revendications sont simples », a-t-elle continué, « ils demandent l'accès à des soins médicaux et qu'on accorde à leur famille la possibilité de leur rendre visite ».

Ce « Guantánamo du Nord », comme l'appelle de nombreuses associations militant pour la protection

des droits de l'homme, suscite une vive controverse au pays. À l'instar de son pendant cubain, la prison retient des immigrants de façon « arbitraire et indéfinie sous une menace continue [...] [de] torture [s'ils sont] déportés dans leur pays d'origine », a expliqué Nanan. « Le gouvernement fédéral a reconnu que les cinq détenus [dont Adil Charkaoui et l'algérien Mohamed Harkat arrêté en décembre 2002] risquaient la torture s'ils se faisaient déporter en Égypte, au Maroc, en Algérie ou en Syrie », a ajouté un membre de la Coalition.

La légitimité des principes et des pratiques de la nouvelle prison de Kingston est également remise en question dans le rapport émis par le Groupe de travail sur la détention arbitraire après le séjour de ses membres au Canada du 1er au 15 juin 2005. S'ils reconnais-

sent que le gouvernement canadien se doit de protéger ses citoyens contre le terrorisme et de s'acquitter de ses obligations internationales, les membres du comité dénoncent cependant la partialité des condamnations. La détention est par exemple obligatoire lorsque la personne prévenue n'a pas le statut de résident permanent. D'autre part, le refus du gouvernement canadien de leur accorder la possibilité de se défendre dans « un procès équitable et juste » constitue une violation d'un principe fondamental garanti par le Pacte international sur les droits civils et politiques.

Pour ce qui est de l'avenir des trois détenus, la Cour suprême du Canada devrait déterminer la semaine prochaine si les certificats de sécurité en vertu desquels ils sont détenus sont constitutionnels.

LE MIROIR

le jeudi 25 janvier 2007

volume 2 numéro 4

Courriel rec@lemiroirjournal.com

rédactrice en chef
Omayra A. Issa

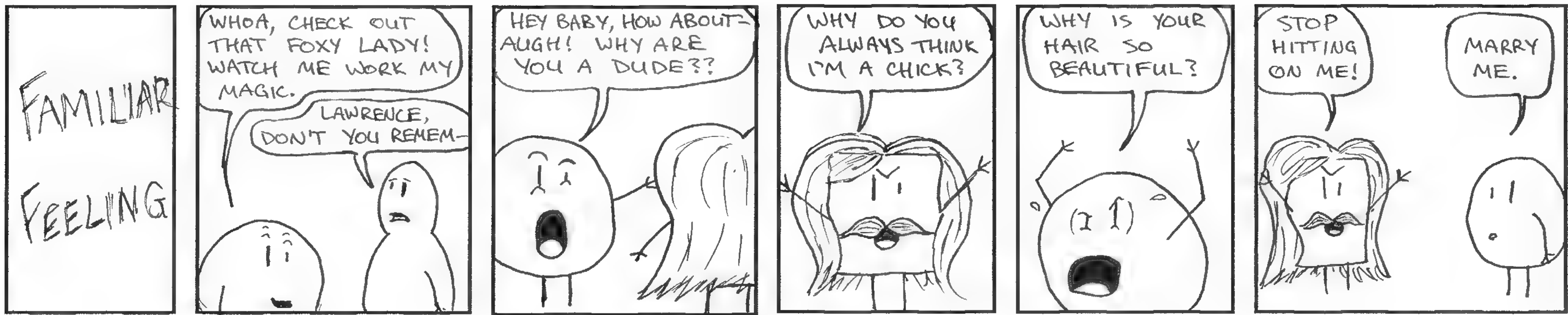
mise en page
Elliot Kerr

contributions: Rachel Barthélemy, Romain Chareyron, Morgane Lapeyre

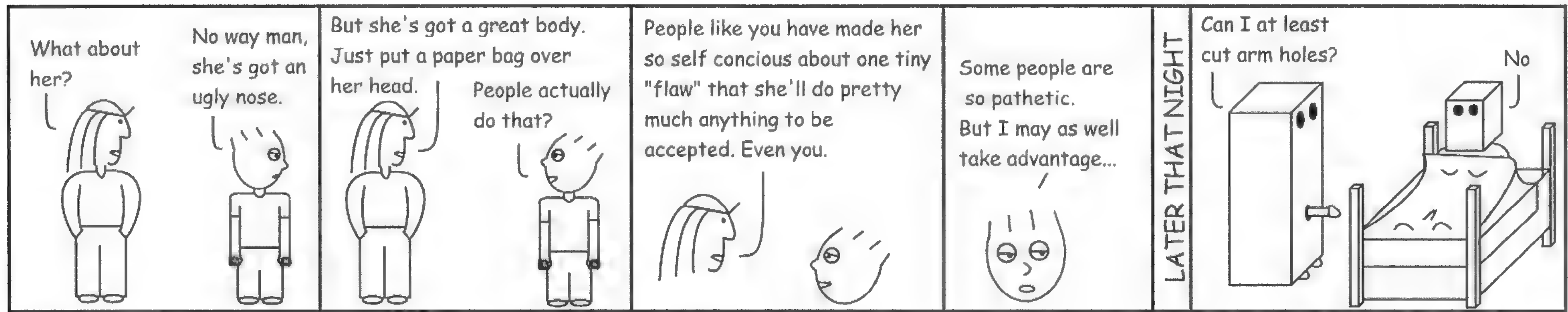
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PEANUT & CIRCLE by Chris Krause



PITY MARKS by Steve Garner



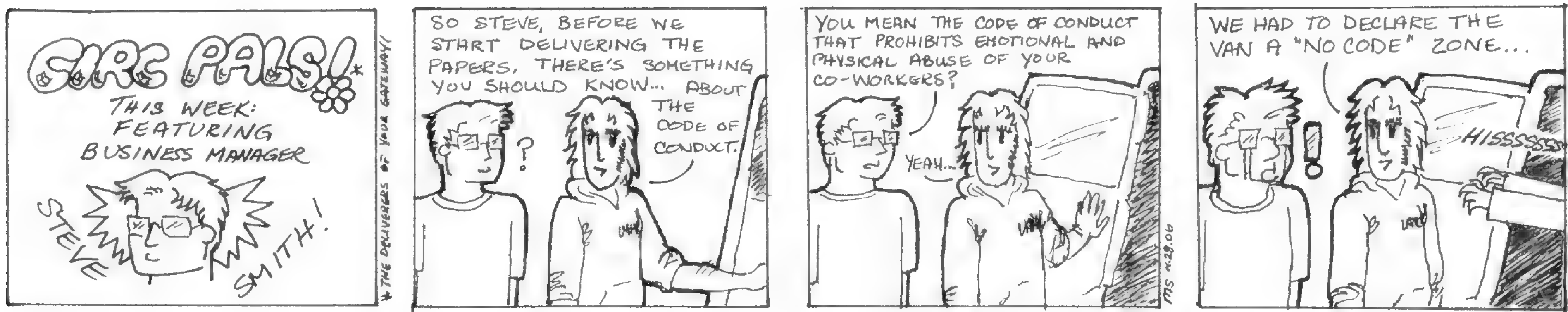
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FOR SALE

Medical School Interview Workbook. Over 250 key questions. Info: premedca@sna.w.ca or members.sna.w.ca/premedca

SERVICES

The Canadian Islamic Centre is happy to announce the beginning of its Arabic Classes as well as Quran classes. The programs are on Saturday and Sunday. For further information please call 451-6694

Free haircuts! Apprenticing stylist needs volunteers on Tues and Thurs mornings at Swizz Salon/Wynite Ave. Contact Jenna at 469-8601 or jennam1ne49@yahoo.ca for details

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NLP practitioner certification with Barbara

Stepp, Master Trainer of NLP, DHE, Ericksonian Hypnosis Trained Anthony Robbins, trainer with Anthony Robbins Organization. Fortune 500 Companies consultant 21-28 April Cedar Park Inn. Early Bird/Group Discounts. Student Discounts. Call 922-6177. www.totannp.com

Big Brothers Big Sisters Cup Meeting Are you a UoFA student or staff who's a BBBS volunteer, or just curious about BBBS? You're welcome at our next meeting 5pm Thurs 25 Jan. 2-14 Humanities. Contact Monica at 424-8181 ext 249 or m.walker@bbbsedmonton.org.

EMPLOYMENT - FULL TIME

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EMPLOYMENT - PART TIME

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Perfect for Ed. students! Childcare center close to UoFA, start \$10/hour. Shifts Tues and Wed 7-9am, Tues and Thurs 2:30-5:30pm. Call 905-9416.

Edmonton YMCA Child Care Services now hiring for positions working with children ages 5-12. RVerpand, M-F 3-6pm Westmount, M-F 7-9am, 11-1 Town Brooks, M-F 7-9am, 3-6 Stratford, M-F 7-9am, 3-6 North East, TWR 3-6 North West, M-F 7-9am, 3-6. Free YMCA Membership with employment. Salary starts at \$9 per hour. Minimum 4 hours per week. Please include location and availability in resume. E-mail resume to care@edmonton.ymca.ca or fax to Candace at 425-1346.

Student Calling Program is hiring! Competitive pay and bonus structure, work on campus with other students. Check us out at www.uofa.web.uaperta.ca/scp or apply with resume to scpsuper@uaperta.ca

Casual labour at our furniture store, assembly and delivery on Saturday plus flexible hours during the week. /nr to start. See Terry @ Oaksmith Interiors 3865 99th St or call us at 430-0798

Education Students Part-time work available in Duggan Out of School Care. 6:30am-8:45am and/or 3:30pm-5:30pm. Call Ran @ 904-9787.

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Swizz Salon/Spa is looking for a part-time receptionist, 3 or 4 shifts a week, offering a beautiful salon, close to school, competitive

wages and a great team, bring resume to Swizz at 11104 Wynite Ave. 433 7078.

Under new ownership and management The Ave. That's where it's at. Come and experience a difference. One of the sweetest jobs around. While working on one of the most exciting avenues! If you are interested, e-mail your resume to pfrank@interbaun.com or drop off your resume at the Maple Sap Creamery on Wynite Avenue 433-3636.

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EMPLOYMENT - TEMPORARY

Industry Summer Training Program for Undergraduates Application Deadline 31 January, 2007. Participate in cutting-edge artistic research in an industry setting. Salary USD \$16-20/hr. Airfare and in-ta visa application costs are covered. For more information visit www.artnritsnetwork.ca

Summer jobs for Medical and Allied Health Professionals. Application Deadline 31 January, 2007. Work with a researcher conducting research/development focused on arthritis. Successful applicants receive a bursary and applicable travel expenses. Visit www.artnritsnetwork.ca for more information.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Cultural Connections Institute The Learning Exchange is looking for volunteers to teach English as a Second Language (ESL) to adult newcomers to Canada. Orientation and training is provided. Morning, afternoon, and evening shifts available. Call 944-0792.

Got an Hour? Be an In-School Mentor. You are matched with an elementary school student in one of 55 participating schools throughout Edmonton and area. Together you can read, play games, work on the computer and just hang out. It's fun and looks great on your resume. Call Big Brothers Big Sisters today at 424-8181 or visit us online at www.bbbsedmonton.org. Or join us for an Information Session on Wednesday 17 January at 3 pm in Room 2-41 Humanities.

Volunteer Assistant for Kids Karate Club, ages 6-12. One hour/week Thursdays 4pm, two blocks from UoFA Campus. 2+ years experience in any Martial Art. E-mail WPKKC_Sensei@notma.com or phone Gordon at 492-9930 (weekdays).

LOST AND FOUND

Lost 30 Nov 2006 Creative MP3 Player with Skull Candy earphones at Bus Rm 1-09. Reward: 780-633-4221.

PERSONALS

It's Party Time! The Edmonton Party Line is a safe and easy way to meet new and interesting people. Ladies are free! Guys from 5 cents per minute. Ads, jokes, stories and more! Try it now! Dial 44-Party

“There’s
a positive
vibe here.”

Eric Urzada

“Moving back to Regina has meant I can work in a challenging career at a high level, be closer to family, enjoy the lake culture – and still have cash left over.”

– Eric Urzada, CFO, Keystone Royalty Corp., Villanova Energy Corp.

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Saskatchewan!

January featured
STUDENT GROUP

UoFA
Phi Delta Theta Fraternity

www.PhiDeltaTheta.ca
E-mail: President@PhiDeltaTheta.ca
Office: 10942-87 Ave, Edmonton, AB
T6G 0X3

Year Established: 12/09/1930
Membership: 15

Purpose of the Group:
Friendship, Sound Learning, and Moral Rectitude; we benefit our members as well as the community. We provide funding for Lou Gehrig's disease, Youth Emergency Shelter, and Youth CO-OP. We provide academic, personal, and career support for our members.

Phi Delta Theta, in last semester alone, helped raise funds for CNIB, & ABC Headstart for Literature with Delta Gamma and Kappa Alpha Theta, wrapped gifts at Millwoods Town Center in support of the Youth Emergency Shelter just before Christmas and raised funds for ALS through BBQs. We also collected donations for the Old Strathcona Youth Society. We have a large campus fundraiser in spring in support for the Youth Society as well as more activities for charity.

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OVER 350 STUDENT GROUPS
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WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA/STUDENTGROUPS

Student Group Services

Water worries on tap for U of A

LIZ DURDEN
News Writer

The issue of water accessibility might not seem relevant in a country where it's clean and ready for consumption at the twist of a tap; however, as part of International Week, the University of Alberta Senate has put together a panel of experts to talk about the concerns surrounding water, such as accessibility on a local and global scale, the commoditization of water, sanitation issues and inter-community tension.

"Our hope is the panellists will talk about water from a variety of positions; water as a resource to protect, water as a resource to manage, water as a sacred gift and core human right, and water as a source of conflict," said Derek Roy-Brenneis, the Executive Officer and Assistant to Chancellor Eric Newell.

"I think one of the hopes behind International Week is that people have an opportunity to think globally and act locally," Roy-Brenneis explained.

Chancellor Newell will moderate the forum, entitled *Water*

and *Human Security: A Thirst for Survival*. Panellists include Council of Canadians National Chairperson, and Blue Planet Project co-founder Maude Barlow, Syncrude Canada Ltd President and Chief Operating Officer James Carter, Earth Water International founder, President and CEO Kori Chillibeck, and Killam Memorial Chair and U of A Professor of Ecology David W Schindler.

"Dr Schindler knows water—more than most people on campus I think. It was important for us to have a U of A voice, but also a voice with international recognition," Roy-Brenneis said. "His work focuses on the depletion of water as a resource, and how that affects biological diversity and human activity in a particular area, but also the long-term effects for a particular community in a particular province."

Roy-Brenneis believes that the panel will help bring greater awareness to students and the public on issues such as managing depleting water reserves and finding strategies to provide access to clean water.

"It's astonishing how very few countries treat water and sanitation as a political priority. Its pervasiveness in some of the more wealthy countries in the world leads us to take it for granted."

Roy-Brenneis highlighted some startling statistics that he came across when researching water accessibility.

"One billion people are denied the right to clean water, and 2.6 billion people lack access to adequate sanitation. Unclean water is the second biggest killer of children. In terms of impact, and relative to war and disease and terrorism, it struck us on the Senate that this is an issue that isn't talked about enough."

The panellists will address the 2006 United Nations Human Development Report, which focuses on poverty, inequality and unequal power relationships as core to the challenge around water.

The lecture will take place in the Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex room E1-001 Tuesday, 30 January from 7:30–9:30 pm.

Layton hits U of A to chew fat on PSE

RYAN HEISE
Online Coordinator

A casually dressed socialist typically isn't a big deal to see mulling about the university. But when that casually dressed socialist turns out to be the leader of the federal New Democratic Party, Jack Layton, more than a few students took notice and jumped at the opportunity to get a glance of the 'stache and catch Layton discuss the federal approach to education.

"I've got my ear to the ground," said Layton, on his reasoning for coming to campus. "I want to get the best advice I can from young people across the country and that's why I visit a lot of campuses."

The University of Alberta was the second stop during Layton's trip to the city last Friday, which saw him first attend a book signing for his September 2006 release *Speaking Out Louder: Ideas That Work for Canadians*. He then travelled to campus to meet with members of the Students' Union, followed by a question-and-answer period that was open to all students, as well as any interested members of community.

Students' Union President Samantha Power was excited about the opportunity to speak with Layton.

"It's really helpful to be able to talk to people at the federal level and reinforce student views at that level," Power said.

Layton stressed that his appearance on campus wasn't about bringing issues to students, but rather for students to present issues to him and the NDP.

However, he didn't shy away from expounding what his party feels is the most salient issue for postsecondary students in Canada today: the cost of receiving an education and the subsequent debt piled onto many students.

"You end up with kind of a prosperity gap where those whose families have high incomes can easily accommodate the cost, but those who are the parents in working-class, middle-class families find that it's harder and harder [to afford postsecondary education] ... this doesn't make sense to us," Layton explained.

He continued by stating that it wasn't only the cost of tuition that was bearing down on students but also the cost of housing and textbooks.

Taken together, the NDP fear that the debt accumulated by many students by the time they graduate is far too big of a burden to deal with.



LIZ DURDEN

A NASH 'STACHE Layton was on campus to discuss student debt in Canada.

"Metaphorically speaking, it would be like a bird encouraging the young chick at the point when they're ready to spread their wings and fly. What you say is, 'We're going to hang a stone around your neck just before we push you out of the nest,'" said Layton, speaking about the debt from student loans and credit cards.

The NDP have created what they feel is a prescriptive solution to many of these problems by drafting the Postsecondary Education Act—a piece of legislation that will define a permanent role for the federal government to play in the financing of postsecondary education.

Layton said that the act would specifically target the accessibility issues of PSE, which means a large focus on the affordability. Layton explained that individual funding must move towards needs-based grants to better transfer money to those students who require it.

The act would also address issues surrounding research, graduate students, international students, and the physical infrastructure of universities.

Many of these same issues were raised during Layton's meeting with the Students' Union. Power commented that the dialogue with Layton was very open and quite beneficial to both parties.

"We talked a lot about the view

here in Alberta that ten years ago about 75 per cent of the population thought that postsecondary was affordable and today only 48 per cent of the population think that," Power said. "I think he really took that to heart; that something really needs to be done to make postsecondary education really accessible and affordable to everybody."

During the public Q & A, Layton answered all questions posed to him and appeared to be quite comfortable interacting with the young crowd.

While Layton stayed tight-lipped regarding the possibility of a federal election in the near future, he took every opportunity to point out the NDP's frustration and disappointment with both major parties; citing the Liberal's poor fiscal record under Paul Martin and the Conservative's lack of environmental or social vision for Canada.

Layton closed by urging young people to become more active in politics and to be accountable for the society that they live in.

"I think it would be wiser to have more engagement by young people because, as my son so tactfully put it to me the other day, 'Dad, we're going to live here a lot longer than you.' So I'm saying, 'Get out and shape the future.'"

www.su-venues.ca

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- LAST CALL AT 2 AM
- SAT 3 PM TO 3 AM
- LAST CALL AT 2 AM

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BAR HOURS

- THURS - FRI 11 AM TO 2 AM
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happy hour:

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OILERS VS. SAN JOSE. SHARK FEAST!?
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OILERS VS. LA KINGS - BATTLE OF THE TEAMS-THAT-USED-TO-HAVE-GRETZKY-AND-McSORLEY
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OILERS HOST COLUMBUS. NO BLUE JACKETS ALLOWED?
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APPLICATION DEADLINE:
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APPLY ONLINE at www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

Lessons from Hatred

Date:
February 1, 2007

Time:
5:00-7:00pm

Place:
UofA Campus
ETLC-E001

Genocide: Beyond Terror Systematic Mass Destruction

Holocaust and
Human Rights:

Mr. Len Rudner

Canadian Jewish Congress
Director of Communications

Rwandan Genocide
Survivor:

Dr. Tharcisse Semutunga

History and First Hand
Testimony

✪ Hillel: Jewish Students Association ✪

GOLDEN BEARS & PANDAS

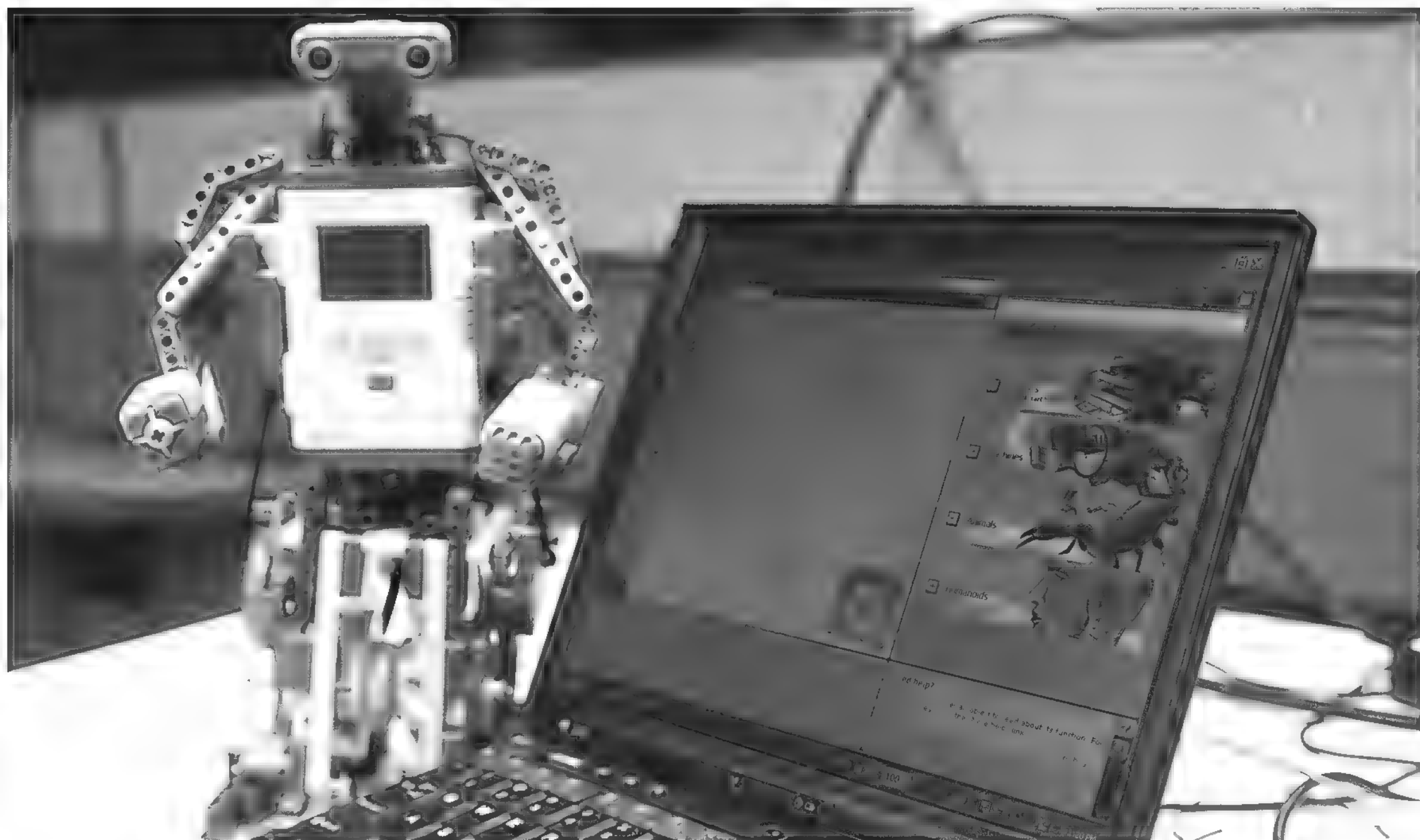


U of A Basketball vs Saskatchewan
Friday & Saturday, January 26 & 27
Pandas - 6:00pm • Golden Bears - 8:00pm
Main Gym

Pandas Hockey vs. Lethbridge
Friday & Saturday, January 26 & 27
7:00pm @ Clare Drake Arena

Golden Bears Volleyball vs. UBC
Saturday & Sunday, January 27 & 28
2:00pm @ Main Gym

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ABOVE: PHIL HEAD, BOTTOM PHOTO: JUNETTE HUYNH

KILROY WAS HERE Along with robotic scorpions, metallic dogs and a mobile vending machine. Batteries not included.

Comp Sci showcases servos, Segways

EDMON ROTEA
News Staff

In an effort to pique interest and boost enrolment, the Department of Computing Science opened its doors last Friday and pulled out all the stops to showcase the cool side of being nerdy.

During the fact-finding tour, staff, students and researchers of the department explained their latest research efforts while describing emerging applications of computer technology.

"We're looking at data in new ways and trying to make sense of that. As you know there's a lot of data out there, from credit card companies to medical data—by the terabytes—and all sorts of stuff," said David Woloschuk, a senior programmer analyst for the Alberta Ingenuity Centre for Machine Learning (AICML).

The AICML, located within Computing Science Centre, is a hub for research in the fields of curiosity-driven machine learning, and a variety of emerging commercial applications from bioinformatics to entertainment.

Visitors interacted with teaching tools used in the classroom, including interactive toys, from bionic canines to a robotic Lego Mindstorm scorpion used as a teaching tool for fourth-year undergraduate students.

"The scorpion has a sonar system, so if you get too close to it, it backs away," Woloschuk said as he approached an artificial scorpion that quickly backed away and delivered a virtual sting. However, the Mindstorms aren't only used for fun and games.

"The Lego Mindstorms are rela-

tively inexpensive compared to other robot kits out there. It's very easy to write initial programs for them, so if you are just teaching someone programming, it's actually very easy to do," said Woloschuk, who added that the models have other practical applications, including having students teach the robots to follow and track movement.

Additional robotic teaching toys included robotic dogs made by Sony, which like conventional canines have the ability to learn new tricks, from learning about new environments to walking faster. Visitors had the chance to even play a round of soccer with the dogs.

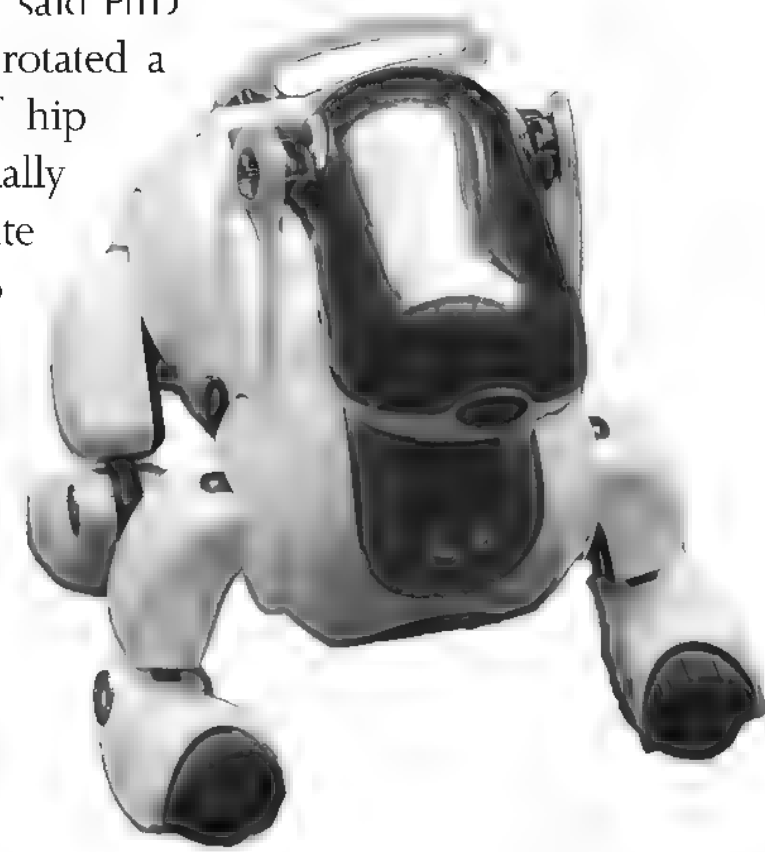
Other research efforts included image-based rendering techniques, whereby three-dimensional computer models could be generated from video footage creating a scene akin to those found in films like *The Matrix*.

"Now we can give the viewer the freedom to choose their viewpoint by using a mouse or keyboard," said PhD candidate Cheng Lei, as he rotated a three dimensional scene of hip hop break dancers—originally generated from a composite of two-dimensional video footage. "All the videos are captured by multiple cameras—but you cannot afford to use so many cameras to cover all the possible viewpoints, so we had to use a

technique to 'synthesize' the viewpoints not captured by real cameras."

Further projects showcased on the tour included holographic three-dimensional models, educational teaching games, and web-based multimedia learning tools. Graduate students also showed off their latest creations, including a robot nicknamed "Kato" which was built using a Segway scooter to a robot that could be potentially used as a mobile vending machine.

"This is in fact a mobile robot that distributes candy. The objective is to test sequential decision-making. It tries to learn where to go and at what time to give candies in the shortest amount of time," said Adam Milstein, a graduate student specializing in artificial intelligence. "The applications of this robot is not only limited to a mobile vending machine. Other applications include anything involving decisions on whether to explore some new area or exploit the information you already know."



NEWS IN BRIEF

Compiled by Thomas Wagner

ALBERTANS SHOULD HAVE NO BEEF WITH EQUALIZATION, SAYS BOOTHE

In the first few weeks of the year, Alberta has again made the news, this time over controversial statements by Minister of Sustainable Resource Development Ted Morton and Minister of International, Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Relations Guy Boutilier.

Both Conservative members spoke on issues of national unity and fiscal imbalance between provinces, all complaints which Paul Boothe, an economics professor at the University of Alberta, said the region has little right to make.

Nonetheless, on the CBC show *The Current* Morton had said Alberta receives

far less in services from the federal government than it pays taxes for.

"Since 1961, there's been \$220 billion net transferred out of Alberta to the rest of the provinces," Morton said. "Coincidentally, during the same period Québec just happened to get \$211 billion net transferred in. Go figure."

However, Boothe said that the money paid out isn't from the Alberta government, but from federally collected income tax and the GST. As well, the figure doesn't factor in that some money is spent on federal programs, such as paying down the national debt or on defence, both of which aren't factored into the equation but are considered a benefit to all Albertans.

"Of course we don't get equalization, but that's because we're rich," Boothe said. "We could get it if we were poor, but who wants to qualify?"

Boothe also explained that despite popular belief, Alberta benefits greatly from its involvement in Confederation, both

economically and socially. Movement of workers and people across the country is extremely easy, bringing great economic benefits, not to mention the positive effects that inter-provincial trade and commerce have on the Albertan economy, as well as the response to Canadian products.

"When we do export [products], having the Canada brand is pretty important and a lot more people, potential customers in the world, have heard of Canada than have heard of Alberta," Boothe said.

Boothe also worried about the priorities of the government, noting that Alberta has more serious issues to deal with, like an overheated economy or unsustainable government spending, than national issues it has no control over.

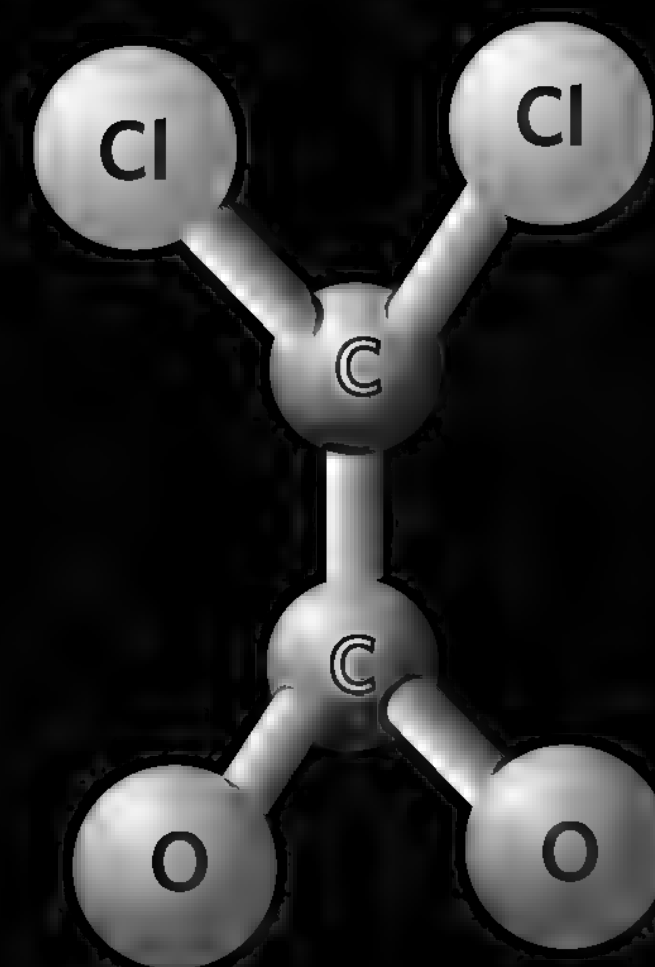
"We have a lot of problems in Alberta right now ... that we need to deal with at home, instead of commenting on issues that don't really have any major effect here in Alberta," he said.

The Road to a Cure

How DCA is paving the way for future research in cancer treatment

When it comes to medical research, universities are where the action is these days. According to Dr Philip Branton, Scientific Director of the Institute for Cancer Research, "the new concepts and drugs virtually all come out of universities." Usually it works like this: researchers at a university will conduct their experiments with funding from government and academic sources (like Canadian Institute of Health Research and the Alberta Heritage Medical Research Fund). Biotech companies might then buy into a drug or molecule that they think shows promise, and keep developing and testing it. If things continue to go well for the potential drug, one of the large pharmaceutical companies will get involved, providing more money for development, and then eventually producing and marketing it.

The clinical human trial process has three phases, and usually takes several years. The first stage is for safety, to see if it has harmful side effects. The second stage is also for safety, but also to see if the drug shows signs of being effective. The third, final stage is treating test patients with the drug as they think they would once it's approved, to see if it's effective. A drug must go through separate trials for each of its possible uses. For example, a cancer drug would have to be tested separately for each different variety of cancer, as well as the stage of cancer at which it might be used. One of the hardest things about human trials is finding enough participants for each stage.

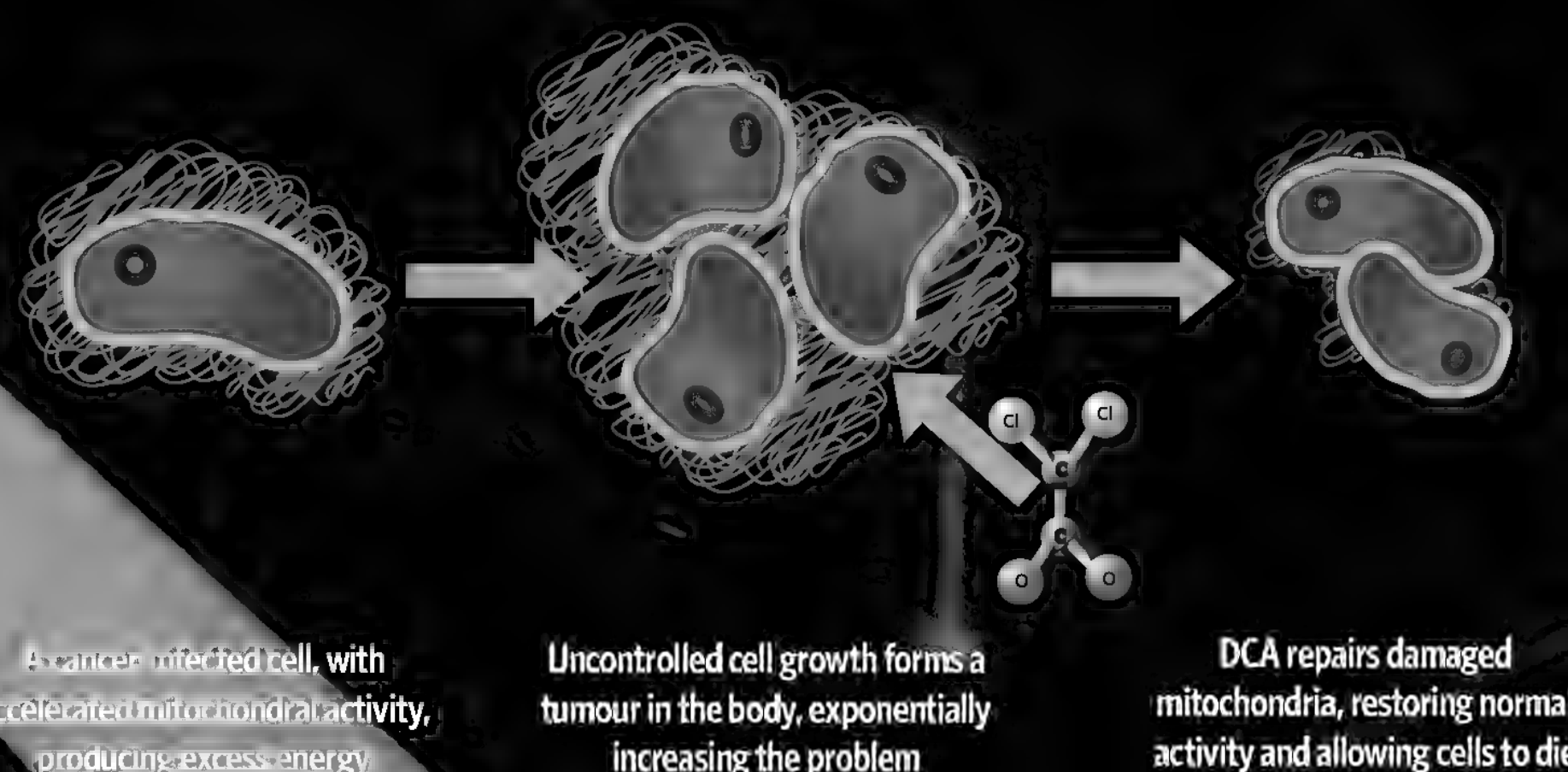


A DCA molecule, the promising remedy

Until now, researchers thought that mitochondria in cancer cells was permanently damaged and that the damage was a result of the cancer—not a cause.

Cancer alters the function of the mitochondria, increasing cell growth and preventing cell death.

DCA activates a critical enzyme in the mitochondria. This normalizes mitochondrial activity, regulating cell growth and more importantly, allowing cells to die so the tumour can shrink.



The DCA project was a team effort, encompassing work done by sixteen scientists: two from the University of Ottawa, and fourteen from the University of Alberta. The U of A researchers are from such diverse departments as Podiatry, Oncology, Biomedical Engineering, and the Pulmonary Hypertension Program and Vascular Biology Group. Here are all the names that appear on the Cancer Cell article:

Sebastien Bonnet, Stephen L. Archer, Joan Allalunis-Turner, Alois Haromy, Christian Beaulieu, Richard Thompson, Christopher T. Lee, Gary D. Lopaschuk, Lakshmi Puttagunda, Sandra Bonnet, Gwyneth Harry, Kyoko Hashimoto, Christopher J. Porter, Miguel A. Andrade, Bernard Thebaud, and Evangelos D. Michelakis.

Drug shows strong results, but researchers caution restraint

Doctors say that the DCA compound, while very promising in rodent studies, is far from being a miracle cure and requires much more testing before it is ready for use in treating human cancer patients

DCA ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"What's so intriguing about this work is that it addresses one of the oldest observations in the study of cancer, and takes advantage of this research by using a drug that's already in the clinic," said Dr Philip Branton, scientific director of the Institute of Cancer Research, one of the Canadian Institutes for Health Research, which provided much of this research's funding. "DCA is already used therapeutically, and has been shown to be safe."

So far, all of the DCA experiments have been on laboratory rats injected with cancer cells from human lung, breast or brain tumours. It's still unknown whether the same results will appear when the drug is tested on humans.

"We don't know what the impact will be, other than it is definitely opening another way of looking at cancer because the mitochondria have not before been approached as target for therapy," Michelakis said.

"There are three possibilities for how it could work on humans," Bonnet explained. "DCA is going to kill all the tumour and it won't come back; or DCA will at some point stop working and the tumour will be so small that we can easily take it out with simple surgery; or maybe DCA combined with other chemotherapy agents will kill the tumour. We have a lot of experiments still to do."

Or, it could not work at all. Branton cautioned against people getting their

hopes too high based on such preliminary results.

"I've had a whole bunch of people contact me, wanting to know about trials for their parents and for themselves," he said. "But this is really early preclinical work. This is only one drug. There are dozens of good drugs around, and is this better than something else? I don't know."

The next step is to begin human trials—a long, complicated and expensive process. First, researchers must prove that a drug is safe, though that step won't be as difficult with DCA. Then they begin testing for efficacy, experimenting on different types and stages of cancer with varying dosages of the drug.

"That stage is a million times harder," Michelakis said. "You translate what you find in animals to human beings, and it's far more difficult. If you do something in animals that never transfers to humans, it's a big nothing; it's big waste."

"We know it's probably safe, and we know it works on human cancer cell lines in animals, but we don't know if it will work on human beings. We also don't know long-term effects," he explained.

An advantage for Michelakis and colleagues is that they will likely be able to skip traditional first-phase trials, because DCA already known to be safe drug. Unfortunately, DCA's prior use causes another problem: no one wants to invest in it.

Before Michelakis' group began

their research, DCA was not under patent. And, since its makeup was generally known, a structural patent could not be filed. During the course of their research, Michelakis and another U of A doctor involved in the project, Dr Stephen Archer, obtained a use patent. This type of patent, relating to the use of a drug rather than its manufacture, is difficult to defend. Investors are therefore wary of putting money into development.

"But this is really early preclinical work. This is only one drug. There are dozens of good drugs around, and is this better than something else? I don't know."

**DR EVANGELOS MICHELAKIS,
U OF A RESEARCHER**

"If [a drug] is not properly patented, they could never get their money back, because anyone could then make the drug," explained Dr Branton. "A company might invest millions of dollars into clinical trials and then anyone could sell it."

In order to move DCA into the clinical trials stage of development, the research group will probably have to rely on government and other

non-profit sources.

"We were looking for investors, and no one was interested," Michelakis said. "That's why we have government, that's why we have groups like the CIHR, the National Cancer Institute, and other agencies and philanthropies. That's why they're there."

"DCA is already used therapeutically, and has been shown to be safe."

So far, all of the DCA experiments have been on laboratory rats injected with cancer cells from human lung, breast, or brain tumours. It's still unknown whether the same results will appear when the drug is tested on humans. Observers like Branton are particularly optimistic about the success of potential trials because DCA has been used on humans for so long.

"We know it's probably safe, and we know it works on human cancer cell lines in animals, but we don't know if it will work on human beings," Michelakis said. "We also don't know long-term effects."

We have a lot of experiments still to do."

The next step is to begin human trials, a long, complicated and expensive process. First, researchers must prove that a drug is safe, though that step will not be as difficult with DCA. Then they begin testing for efficacy, experimenting on different types and stages of cancer with varying dosages of the drug.

Surgery licks cancer complication

OLESIA PLOKHII
Times Writer

Surgeons at the University of Alberta have discovered a technique for repairing speech and swallowing ability in those suffering from mouth and tongue cancer.

Dr Hadi Seikaly and Dr Jeff Harris, the two doctors who have been attributed with this discovery, explained that the new technique is a modification of an old procedure. Doctors have transplanted tissue from the forearm into the mouth after cancer surgery for over 20 years, but a slight change can make the recovery easier.

"The 'beaver-tail' modification" involves adding an extra paddle of fat and fascia to the rest of the forearm tissue," explained Dr Dan O'Connell. "This technique is designed for patients that have had the base [or very back] of their tongue removed because of cancer," he said.

O'Connell explained that in the past people who had surgery on these types of cancers would often be crippled in vital abilities pertaining to the mouth.

"It is the extra bulkiness provided by this 'beaver-tail' that preserves the swallowing ability," he said.

O'Connell explained that the paddle of fat and fascia that is the beaver-tail is then rolled up and placed in the base of the tongue defect.

Both the Division of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery and COMPRU (the Craniofacial Osseointegration and Maxillofacial Prosthetic Rehabilitation Unit) worked together to see 36 patients through this procedure, 90 per cent of which preserved their swallowing and speaking function, O'Connell explained.

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CONTEST RUNS JANUARY 15 - 26, 2007

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Draw on January 26, 2007 at 3 pm sharp! Prizes must be accepted as awarded and
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PROFESSOR OF THE WEEK



**DR. TOM
CHACKO**
EAS 332

"Tom Chacko is an **extraordinary** professor. He takes complex ideas and breaks them down so they are **easily understood**. He teaches the Precambrian course like a story, and welcomes questions and opinions. His enthusiasm and positive attitude are so **contagious** that we are all swept away. He has a way of **grabbing your imagination**, making rocks far more interesting than anyone could expect. He uses **diagrams, wild hand gestures** and **expressive tones** to get the history of the earth across. He **inspires** his students to learn and to do their best."

MAKE TEACHING MATTER!

Excellent teaching is the foundation of an outstanding undergraduate education, and the university community needs to begin to value everyday achievements in undergraduate teaching.

The Students' Union is looking to recognize professors who demonstrate sincere enthusiasm for teaching undergraduates, innovative methods of engaging students in the learning process and a willingness to go beyond what is normally expected of a professor.

Nominations can be picked up/submitted at any Faculty Association office or InfoLink desk, or at the SU Executive Office front desk. Nominations can also be emailed to the Associate VP-Academic Tasneem Karbani at avpa@su.ualberta.ca.



FRANCIS PLOURDE, THE UBYSSY (CUP)

STANDING STRONG Victim families and supporters gather outside the courthouse during the trial of Robert Pickton.

Pickton prompts prayer and protest

JESSE FERRERAS
The Ubyssy

VANCOUVER (CUP)—A traditional drumming ceremony greeted the beginning of the trial of Robert Pickton, who has pleaded not guilty to 26 first-degree murder charges in New Westminster, BC on Monday morning.

Over a dozen representatives from the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre and other organizations gathered at the Law Courts plaza in a display of solidarity to draw attention to the violence being committed against women from the area.

The participants, many of them wearing traditional First Nations regalia, performed a "Women Warriors' Song" from the Lillooet nation as well as many other traditional songs throughout the morning.

"I'm here because I needed to drum and honour my sisters and their family members to let them know that there's support here for them," said drummer CJ Julian. "We come here in a good

way and all we want is respect, [to] show them our culture, our traditional ways and that we're good people."

Marlene George, an organizer for the annual Women's Memorial March, which commemorates murdered and missing women from the area, said the violence against women in the Downtown Eastside is being committed by men outside the community as well as inside.

The Missing Women Task Force's official list of women missing from the area includes 65 names. Pickton has been charged with killing 26 of the missing women, mostly sex-trade workers. At one time, the missing women numbered as high as 69; four women have been found alive.

The Women's Memorial March, which takes place 14 February, was instituted as a community-wide event after the "heinous, ugly" violence that was committed against a woman in the Downtown Eastside 16 years ago.

"There's just way too much violence and it has to end," said George, adding that a lack of enforcement is allowing

it to continue.

Pickton's current trial deals with only six of the 26 murder charges. A second trial is expected to follow the current one, and would deal with the remaining 20.

"We have waited a long time in the Downtown Eastside community to see justice," George said. "There are 26 women that Pickton is charged with murdering. Six families will be getting some justice and will be having some closure, but for many other families, still their daughters are missing and unaccounted for."

Elder Rita Blind, also of the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre, asked for spiritual help on the first day of the trial.

"Today I would like to ask our grandfather Buffalo to guide us," she said. "Especially in this courtroom today, I ask him to be present, and our spirit people to be present, so that justice will be done. It has to come from within the system itself, it has to come from there in order for anything to change because that's where justice is."

Females not getting fair shot in Regina

New committee looks into gender bias in professor promotions at the U of R

RACHEL MOLNAR
The Carillon

REGINA (CUP)—Female faculty members at the University of Regina face a slower rate of promotion than their male counterparts, according to the school's faculty association.

The U of R Faculty Association (URFA) status of women committee revealed this recent assertion at an information session on 11 January. URFA said it has been aware of the issue since 2003, although only recently has an ad hoc committee explored the situation further.

While women have proved successful in achieving promotion from the rank of assistant to associate professor, there's concern with the rate at which women are being promoted from the rank of associate professor to full professorship.

"Once women got to the associate rank they tended to stick there a lot longer," said Paul Gingrich, the grievance chairperson for URFA. "Men on average stayed at the associate rank for six years, whereas women took on average eleven years."

Donna Bowman, chairwoman of the status of women committee, speculates that the reason for this lag in promotion is due to women's ongoing role as the primary caregiver of children and elderly parents. Bowman also suggested the problem could be attributed to the lack

of females filling senior positions throughout the University.

"Most administrators at the University are male and may not really understand the difficulties that women face in advancing through the ranks, for the simple reason that they don't face them themselves," she said.

"Unless we make societal changes from within the University, we cannot expect men to treat women as their equal in other aspects of their lives."

**PATRICIA FLEMING,
URFA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

"Women also have a tendency not to apply for promotion unless they are convinced of success, and many indicate they get little encouragement and some even believe they are actively discouraged from applying for promotion from their senior colleagues," URFA Executive Director Patricia Fleming added.

Also of concern is the message the situation sends to female students on campus. While women made up 60 per cent of the student population at the U of R in the winter 2005 semester, 51 per cent of faculty members

are women. Since URFA represents academic staff, librarians, laboratory instructors and sessional instructors, as well as administrative, professional and technical employees, this leaves the ratio between male and female professors unclear.

Fleming also notes that the reality of who gets promotions affects students on campus.

"It sends a very negative message not only to young women students but also to their male peers," she said. "Unless we make societal changes from within the University, we cannot expect men to treat women as their equal in other aspects of their lives."

Bowman argues that as a community leader, the U of R has a responsibility to work towards equality.

"As an institution of learning that plays a significant role in the community, I think that the University should be an example of equity to the community."

Amanda Smytaniuk, President of the U of R Students' Union, echoed this statement, placing emphasis on the role of students.

"I believe that all societal change can happen in an educational institute, and universities are key in that because we set the example that society can mould because we are educating future generations."

The University Administration was unavailable for comment at press time.

Terror in a New Era

Exploring the roots of terrorism in an ever-changing world

It's a buzzword that's all too common in our evening news-casts: terror, usually accompanied by its cousins terrorism and terrorist. It's also the theme dominating this year's instalment of International Week, entitled "Beyond Terror: The Real Weapons of Mass Destruction," running from 29 January to 2 February at the U of A. Now in its 22nd year, I-Week strives to educate the university population about the root causes of global destruction.

But what exactly is this "terror" that we need to move beyond? How do we understand this ever-controversial and

FLQ crisis of October 1970 showed that even Canada isn't immune from terrorism.

Butko compares the atmosphere during the Cold War to the impact of terrorism today, inversely linking progress and morality.

"In many ways, the War on Terror is very similar to the war against communism. As much as we think we've progressed and that the world is a better place, we're now back to where we sort of were 20 or 30 years ago," he says.

This statement is echoed by Zoe Todd, program coordinator for International Week, who says it's important to start

and [the] bogeyman is more than the eight or nine people or four or five people associated with a cell," says Pitt, who is also a sessional instructor in the department of sociology. "[But] if we're going to identify the bogeyman, then it has to be bigger than that and that's why people kind of get caught up in this rush of judgment. It's ignorant and it's easy to do this—to brand everybody."

According to Butko, this bogeyman philosophy can be related to our education and upbringing. "[The] socialization process is very strong," says Butko. "When you see on the news that all of

"In many ways, the War on Terror is very similar to the war against communism. As much as we think we've progressed and that the world is a better place, we're now back to where we sort of were 20 or 30 years ago."

pervasive idea so that we can shift the focus away from terrorism and the generalized fear and discrimination that accompany it?

Thomas Butko, a political science sessional instructor at the U of A, cites 109 different definitions of terrorism, emphasizing the universal ambiguity of the term. He also states that a definition depends upon the context in which the word is used.

"One of the first things that I always sort of looked at is if you're defining terrorism as a noun or as a verb," says Butko. "I prefer to look at terrorism as a verb, [as in] somebody can do something as a terrorist strategy. If you use it as a verb then you're not getting into

looking beyond this high profile view of terrorism and start looking at the root causes of what's really hindering progress.

"[There is] this idea that we should be afraid of X, Y, or Z, but it's not really addressing the fact that globally we're in it together. We're all connected through political means, economic means and ecologically, and there needs to be a global approach to addressing the real weapons of mass destruction," stresses Todd, who is also a Master's student in rural sociology.

She goes on to say that the real threat of discrimination and xenophobia that arises as a result of the mythology of terrorism is also used as a weapon.

the major enemies are from a particular region, it tends to stick in your mind."

Yet a sense of hope remains. "At the end of the day, nobody is born to hate another person. Hate is always taught," adds Butko. "Nobody innately hates a group of people—whether it's Protestants and Catholics in Northern Ireland or Serbs and Croats in Yugoslavia."

According to I-Week's program guide, there's also been a decline in the total number of recorded international terrorist incidents, from an average of 382 per year in the 1990s to 208 in 2003. More and more countries are also putting in place measures to restrict the sales of small arms, and focusing on

"[The] socialization process is very strong. When you see on the news that all of the major enemies are from a particular region, it tends to stick in your mind."

the context of these labels and sort of broad statements."

He says that definitions of terrorism tend to have at least three integral elements. "The first aspect is obviously just violence, the second is a political objective and the third one is innocent people are killed," explains Butko.

Regardless of how one defines it, terrorism is a global constant that has long permeated the social consciousness. From the acts of Maximilien Robespierre in the French Revolution to the 1972 Munich massacre to the impact of 9/11, terrorism has always received at great deal of attention on a national and international scale. The

"Racial profiling exists, let's not pretend it doesn't," Butko adds.

Government and media outlets are always quick to point the finger after major terrorist incidents, blanketing whole ethnic or religious groups with labels and stereotypes. Butko calls to mind the struggle surrounding Maher Arar's deportation to Syria and the battering of Islam following 9/11.

Sociology instructor and Criminologist Bill Pitt equates this to changes in the way we live our lives since 9/11. These changes include more pessimism and increased security measures around the globe.

"We create in essence [a] bogeyman,

more pervasive human rights legislation.

Above all, Todd says there's a need for students to take action within their own communities to work break down the perception of fear, which leads to discrimination.

—Jen Huygen

International Week features over 50 free events taking place on campus, including lectures, workshops and concerts on contemporary global topics. More information is available in the International Week program guides located around campus or online at www.international.ualberta.ca.

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Don't put bottom line above cure

IF THERE'S ONE THING THAT CONNOTES Canadianness—aside from hockey and igloos—it's universal medicare. The general assumption is that, despite its shortcomings of long wait times and suspect levels of care, access to health service is a right. But with a new study into a drug with anti-cancer properties, the private economy may become a barrier to further research. This would in turn halt the development of a drug that may very well save lives.

According to a study released in the journal *Cancer Cell*, University of Alberta scientists may have found a drug that effectively immobilizes brain, breast and lung cancer cells. The drug is already used in other treatments, it's simple to make and it's readily available. As a result, pharmaceutical companies have so far been uninterested in funding further study, as its economic prospects are limited.

In the end, we can't realistically expect "Big Pharma" to pour hundreds of millions of dollars into a project from which they'll likely see no return. It's not that they're *opposed* to curing cancer—it's just that as a business the bottom line is still paramount. But given this fact, it's absolute inappropriate to rely on private corporations to fund this kind of disease research, especially when it has a direct effect on the public good. It leaves the project open to the ebb and flow of the free market and the whim of private interests.

We've seen this play out already on a much larger scale with Brazil's decade-long program that provides free antiretroviral drugs to citizens infected with HIV/AIDS. In the early '90s, around 20 per cent of adult Brazilians were infected; that number now hovers around 0.6 per cent. But because those infected are becoming immune to the older generic drugs, it's becoming necessary for the Brazilian government to purchase antiretrovirals that are still under patent. This could cripple the free-drug program, as patented drugs can cost around US \$17 000 per person per year—as opposed to several hundred dollars for generic medication. Moreover, if Brazil does decide to produce generic versions of US-patented drugs, they could face economic sanctions.

It's a lose-lose scenario common in many other countries, reinforced by a policy that some companies engage in called "evergreening." With this system, they make small changes to drug formulas or dosage methods, effectively allowing them to renew expiring patents in perpetuity. But these companies argue that it's necessary to keep prices high outside of Africa in order to fund the reduced prices offered to some African countries that are hardest hit by the pandemic.

These are the harsh economic realities of AIDS/HIV medication and research. That is, for corporations to sustain production and development, a certain amount of profit must be made. We're seeing this unfold in India, where the country's leading pharmaceutical companies have begun abiding by global patent agreements and are poised to start producing drugs for the American market. The industry, potentially worth US \$3 billion per year, could provide a huge injection into India's economy, while at the same time removing the world's primary source for low-cost generic drugs.

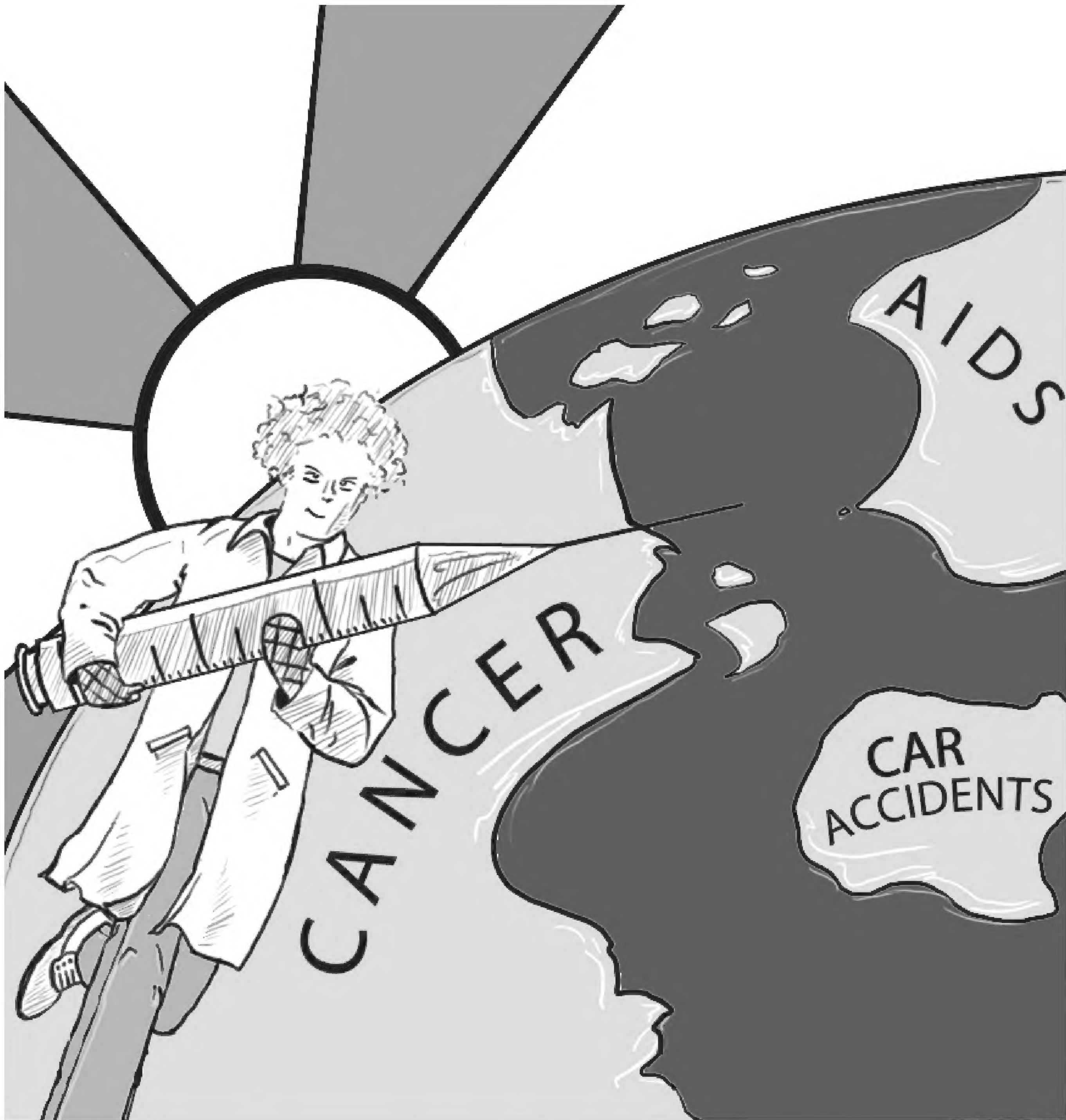
This is why it's integral that prosperous governments increase funding to make treatments readily available to all regardless of their status. We must also relax patent laws while in turn assuring that research isn't susceptible to the fluctuating budgets of big pharmaceutical companies. It's a hefty goal, to be sure, but not impossible—especially when you consider that the US government spends US \$8 billion a *month* in Iraq. And with all that cash put towards big, sexy bombs, it would be a shame if the U of A's potential cancer cure went bottom-up over a lack of funding.

MATT FREHNER
Editor-in-Chief

Oy vey, Moshe!

Rape is a bad thing.
I should not have to say why.
Tell Moshe Katsav.

ADAM ROZENHART
Poet Emeritus



MATTHEW BARRETT

LETTERS

'Killer' Coke fires back with the facts

Recently, students at the University of Alberta have expressed some interest in The Coca-Cola Company (TCCC)'s operations in Colombia and India (re: "Coke contract raises ethical concerns for SU," 11 January).

The University of Alberta's partnership is with the local Canadian bottler (Coca-Cola Bottling Company) whose business activities are limited to the Canadian market; however, I would like to provide you with an update on what TCCC is doing to address students' concerns.

In Colombia, TCCC continues to take steps to strengthen its business practices and commitment to labour rights. Working closely with international and community-based groups, TCCC ensures workers rights are protected and free from violence or interference. It also supports programs that aid children, promote education and bring relief to victims of the country's ongoing conflict.

Last year, the International Labour Organization (ILO) accepted requests made independently by TCCC and the International Union Federation (IUF) to conduct an independent and impartial evaluation of the labour relations and workers' rights practices of Coca-Cola bottlers in Colombia.

TCCC welcomes this independent third-party review and I will be sure to keep you apprised of the results.

TCCC is strongly committed to environmental stewardship and in India Coca-Cola has been recognized for its environmental practices and programs by the Indian Red Cross and World Environmental Foundation.

In December, India's Union Minister of Water Resources concluded that agricultural pumping, not industry activities, was the major contributor to the depletion of ground water.

I thank you for the opportunity to share this with you and direct you to www.cokefacts.org for information on our activities around the world.

DAVID MORAN
Director
Public Affairs and Communications
Coca-Cola Ltd

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Fifteen years later, Lougheed haunts the SU again

Liberals and members of the other parties are becoming increasingly conscious of the "clandestine" activity of certain card-carrying Conservatives involved in student government.

It is becoming rather apparent that members of the immediate Students' Union Executive have used their positions to ensure that positions of authority and influence in SUB particularly are filled with PC supporters or members.

It has been brought to our attention that Mr Lougheed, leader of the provincial Conservatives, has been selected as a keynote speaker in SUB. Could Mr McKenzie's chairmanship of the SUB opening committee be a factor in Mr Lougheed's selection?

Mr McKenzie has seen fit to make neat little comments about the new SUB in the *Gateway* recently, wherein he finds it difficult not to mention Conservatism or the Conservative party (but then, he is a card-carrying member).

Mr King, vice-president of the Students' Union, has been quoted as saying in the *Gateway* that

the PC party is the strongest on campus (which every party on campus would dispute on a basis of their showing in the 1966-67 Model Parliament), when no such statement was called for.

As vice-president of the Students' Union, we feel that he should concern himself solely with this position. He was not elected to espouse his views on the Progressive Conservative party on campus. We feel that this is both unnecessary and unfortunate.

Students' Union elections have not been permeated with politics in the past; neither should student government. Two members (president and secretary) of last year's executive were card-carrying members of the Liberal Party and neither maintained a partisan role during the year.

The Conservatives could not control the government in last year's Model Parliament—we should not allow them to infiltrate and run student government this year.

W R FOWLE
President
Campus Liberals
12 October, 1967

From the Archives is a semi-regular feature where the Gateway runs historical letters that we feel are of particular importance—or are just really hilarious. In this case, we've cleverly tied it in with last week's Letter as well.



MIKE OTTO

CAN YOU SAY QUAGMIRE? US Ambassador David Wilkins knows what his country's doing in Iraq—getting its ass kicked.

Canada needs its own plan of attack

We need to figure out what we're doing in Afghanistan, and then stick to it

GRAHAM
LETTNER

As the US proceeds with its latest scrambling effort of injecting 21 500 new troops into Iraq, Canada should take stock of its own efforts in Afghanistan. Because without learning from the failed US effort, Canada risks its own foreign policy failure.

To start, unlike America's ever-shifting rationale for the occupation of Iraq, Canada should define the Afghan mission plainly and unambiguously. Unfortunately, Gordon O'Connor, Canada's Minister of Defence, wasn't anywhere close to getting it right this past Saturday here at the Edmonton Garrison.

Speaking to the Canadian rationale for the current mission at a symposium on the war in Afghanistan, O'Connor made a chilling statement: "The previous government and this government will not allow Canadians to be killed without retribution." He went on to say, "I don't believe the Liberal government would have committed us to Afghanistan had there not been Canadians killed [in the 9/11 attacks]."

If vengeance is our national policy, then I will suggest that we've already killed our quota of Taliban fighters. If not, these statements by O'Connor serve only to blur the understanding of our role in Afghanistan by introducing the element of retribution. And unless our government is clear about its reasons for sending Canadians into Afghanistan, the Canadian people have

no reason to support the effort.

Beyond clarifying the rationale for its engagement in Afghanistan, our government has to broaden its methods for bringing about peace and stability. Combat operations versus the Taliban are only one piece of a greater combined effort, and Canada risks exacerbating other problems if military operations remain the default method of engagement.

For example, a key political effort needed is to engage the leadership of Pakistan. One of the world's foremost experts on Afghanistan, Dr Barnett R Rubin, recently wrote in the magazine *Foreign Affairs* that "the argument that poverty and underdevelopment, rather than Pakistani support, are responsible for the insurgency does not stand up to scrutiny."

If vengeance is our national policy, then I will suggest that we've already killed our quota of Taliban fighters.

Other regions of Afghanistan are plagued by the same economic problems, yet they don't have the problem of coordinated anti-government violence. Therefore the goal of creating peace and stability in Afghanistan won't be achieved without Pakistan's continued involvement. A policy of isolating regional neighbours on the other hand, such as that which the Bush Administration is pursuing with Iran and Syria, won't build lasting peace.

Another key issue is that of opium production. This could be a great example of building cooperation and

stability rather than undermining it: by constructing roads, cold-storage facilities and other rural developments, the NATO-led coalition can slowly wean farmers off their reliance on the opium trade. According to Rubin, the alternate policy of poppy crop eradication—possibly by aerial spraying—endorsed by the US "puts more money in the hands of traffickers and corrupt officials by raising prices, and drives farmers toward insurgents and warlords." Many overly aggressive anti-insurgency tactics used in Iraq were overwhelmingly detrimental, and there's no reason why they should work in Afghanistan either.

Finally, the Canadian government must be honest about the evolving situation on the ground. At the recent Edmonton symposium, Master Cpl Mark Frere, speaking to O'Connor's focus on the positive developments in Afghanistan, said, "I definitely don't think there's enough of that in the media, or they're not covering that as much as they should." I starkly disagree. The practice of government officials consistently speaking to only the best-case scenario has disastrous consequences. The rhetoric emanating from Washington, as reported by Thomas E Ricks in his book *Fiasco: the American Military Adventure in Iraq*, is hauntingly similar to that being voiced by our Canadian officials. If Canadian decision-making rests on a skewed, irrationally optimistic frame of reference, our initiatives will have little chance of success.

What Canada needs to avoid is finding itself in the position of the Americans: choosing the best of a bad lot. Embracing a broad, multi-faceted strategy, and learning from mistakes made will give Canada a real chance for success in Afghanistan—that is, peace and stability, not retribution.

This man was last seen entering a limousine at the Vancouver International Airport on Thursday, 18 January 2007. If you have any information as to his whereabouts, please email opinion@gatewayalberta.ca immediately.

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